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The Antiquary

PRICE SIXPENCE

An Illustrated Magazine
devoted to
the study of
the Past

"I love everything
that's old. old friends,
old times, old manners,
old books, old wine."

Goldsmith

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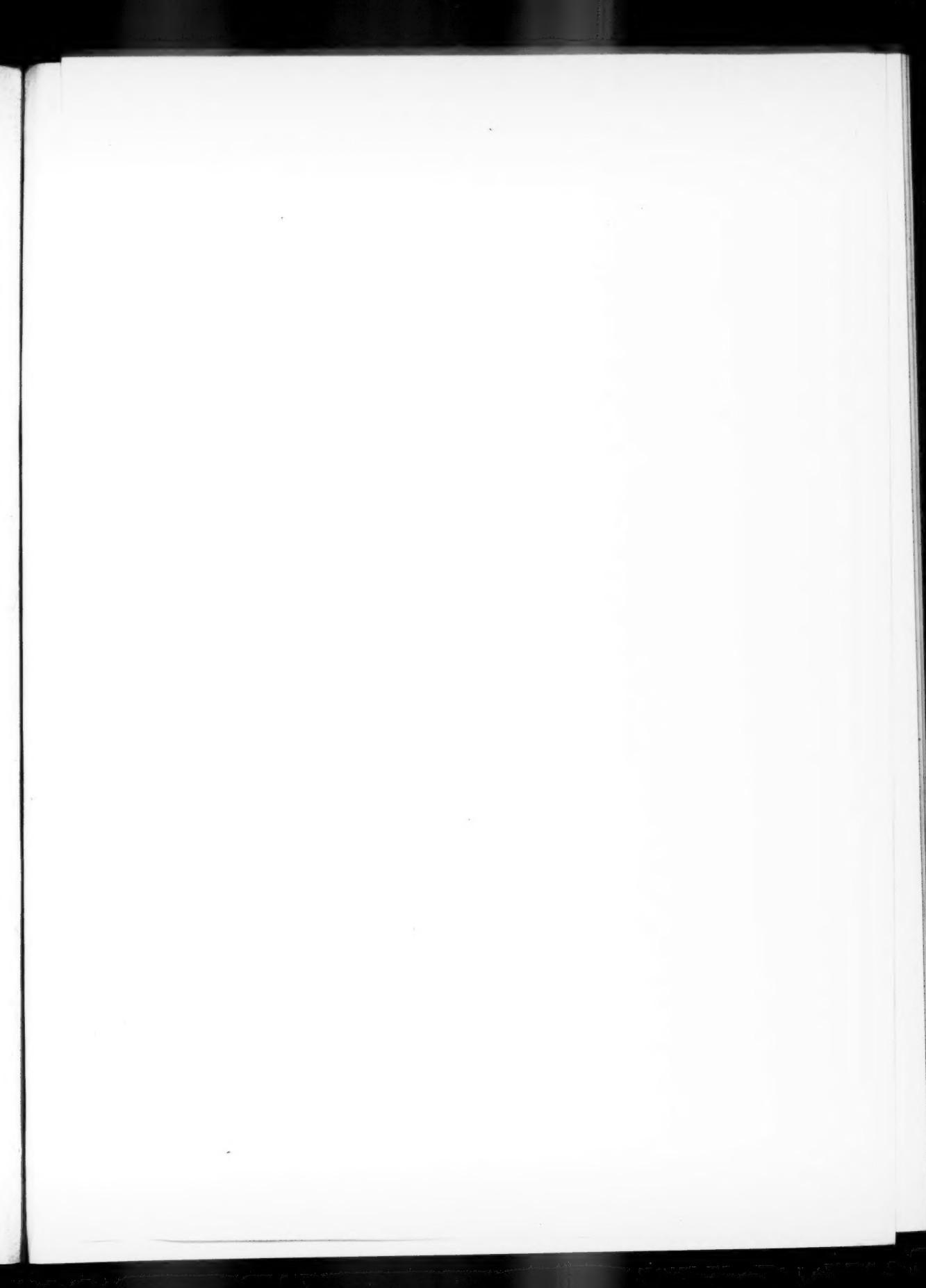
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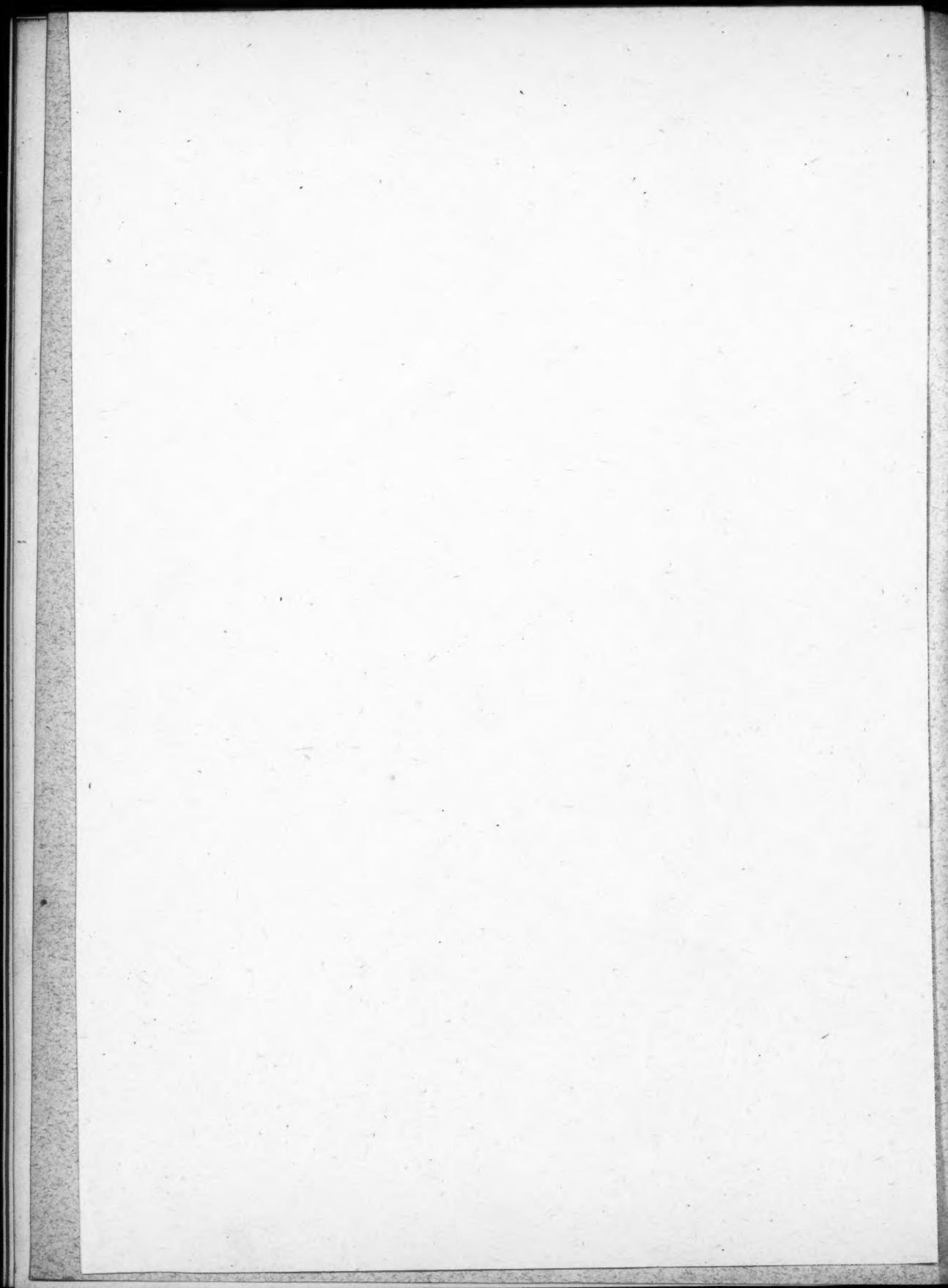
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The Antiquary.



JULY, 1906.

Notes of the Month.

LORD CURZON'S action in placing the Indian Archaeological Department upon a permanent and improved footing, with a Director-General at its head, appears to have been fully justified already by results. The *Times of India* remarks that the surroundings of the Taj Mahal, once so unkempt and malodorous, are now entirely worthy of Shah Jehan's peerless work. Akbar's tomb at Sikandra has had the entrance pillars restored and a section of the decorative work repainted, so that one may realize the astonishing richness of the original. Fatehpur Sikri, with the monuments of the old Delhis—the Kutab Minar and Humayun's Tomb—is reverently cared for, and Italian workmen are replacing the inlaid work of the Diwan-i-Am in the palace by the Jumna. And these examples, taken from great tourist centres like Agra and Delhi, are typical of what is proceeding all over the country.



The summer meeting of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society is to be held in Bristol on July 17, 18, and 19.



During some excavations in a sand-pit at Bexley, Kent, eight prehistoric armlets were discovered. The relics were still burnished, and were at first thought to be of brass; but on examination by an expert, they were pronounced to be of pure gold. The British Museum authorities have expressed the opinion that the armlets are a most valuable

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find, dating from at least 700 B.C. There is only one similar specimen in the Museum, and that does not belong to the nation. The armlets are not completely joined together, an opening being left so that they might be placed on the arm.



The remains of what is believed to have been an old British pottery have been found on the site of a new house at Farnham, Surrey. The "find" includes a large quantity of broken earthenware, some grayish, some black and brown. Of the oven only the base remains. This has two flues, and measures 4 feet 3 inches by 3 feet 7½ inches.



In his "Notes from Rome" in the *Athenaeum* of May 19 Professor Lanciani says: "A remarkable historical and topographical monument has just been discovered in the vicinity of the Coliseum—viz., an altar set up at the crossing of two thoroughfares, one of which was named *Vicus Statæ Matris*. The altar is beautifully ornamented with wreaths and branches of laurel, and contains the names of the four street magistrates who had borne the expense of its erection in the year 2 B.C. under the Consulship of Caninius Gallus and Fufius Geminus. All these indications are new to us. We did not know that a street of the city bore the name of the *Stata Mater* (the deity who was invoked to stay the progress of fires), nor that the personages above mentioned had obtained the honour of the fasces in the second half of that year. The name of Fufius Geminus—the author of the famous law *Fufia Caninia*, by which the manumission of slaves was subjected to stricter rules—had been sought in vain in the *Fasti Consulares*. In the Codex of Justinian the law is called by mistake *Furia Caninia*, and the mistake naturally increased the difficulties of the problem. Students of Roman institutions will be glad, therefore, to know that the chronology of the *Lex Fufia Caninia* is now established, and that it preceded by five years the promulgation of the *Lex Elia Sentia*, which rendered it even more difficult for slaves to obtain their freedom."



Whilst dredging in the Thames opposite Hampton Parish Church some ballast heavers

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recently brought up, from about 7 feet below the bed of the river, two Roman spear-heads. One of these— $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches long—was in a good state of preservation, the other being $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. It is believed that they were some of those used by the soldiers of Julius Caesar's army, who are said to have forded the river opposite the Cherry Orchard, just above the church.



The Hampstead Antiquarian and Historical Society held their first outdoor meeting of the summer session on June 9, when a visit was paid to a number of places of historic interest in Highgate. Finally, the company proceeded to the Old Gate House Hotel, which is said to have been first licensed in 1377, where the ancient ceremony of "Swearing on the horns" was performed in accordance with the old customs and traditions, a certificate of the "freedom" of Highgate being given to each person. In the quaint language of the charge, a "freeman" of Highgate must not eat brown bread while he can get white, except he like the brown best; he must not drink small beer while he can get strong, except he like the small the best; and he must not kiss the maid whilst he can kiss the mistress, except he like the maid the best, or have the chance to kiss them both.



Two ancient crosses have recently been restored. In Wookey churchyard, Somerset, the fifteenth-century preaching cross, which was hacked to pieces during Puritan times, nought being left save the steps and the socket in which the shaft originally stood, has been restored at the expense of Colonel Arthur T. Storer, of Bournemouth, in memory of his deceased wife, whose father was a former vicar of Wookey. No existing sketch or drawing of the original cross in its entirety appears to have been preserved. Hence others in the locality, with somewhat similar date, were taken as suggestions for the new work, especially those at Spaxton, Wedmore, Chewton Mendip, and Stringston. The cross, which is of Ham stone, now stands considerably over 20 feet high. A tall octagonal shaft stands upon the base, surmounted by a crisply carved capital of conventionalized foliage. This carries the canopied head, which is very massive, and

terminates in a graceful spire, crocketed upon its angles, and finishing with an effectively carved finial. The work was carried out by Messrs. Harry Hems and Sons, of Exeter.

The other restoration is in Lincolnshire, where the remains of the very beautiful fourteenth-century churchyard cross at Caythorpe have been erected on the old foundation, and the upper part of the shaft and the canopy restored. The cross stands upon three steps, each 14 inches high. The base to the shaft is an octagon, and from this springs the delicate shaft, crowned by a four-sided canopy, with pinnacles and spirelet. In the base and in the lower part of the shaft are some holes, plugged with lead. These were most probably the means of securing the symbols of the four Evangelists, and the figure of a saint, or the donor. The subjects sculptured in the four canopied niches are Christ on the cross, with figures of SS. Mary and John, the Virgin Mary and Child, St. Vincent, the patron saint of the church, with his emblems, the gridiron and raven, and St. Hugh of Lincoln, the famous Bishop, with his emblem, the swan. The total height of the cross is about 18 feet. Mr. W. S. Weatherley was the architect, while Mr. W. Hearn, of Kennington Road, London, was responsible for the carving.



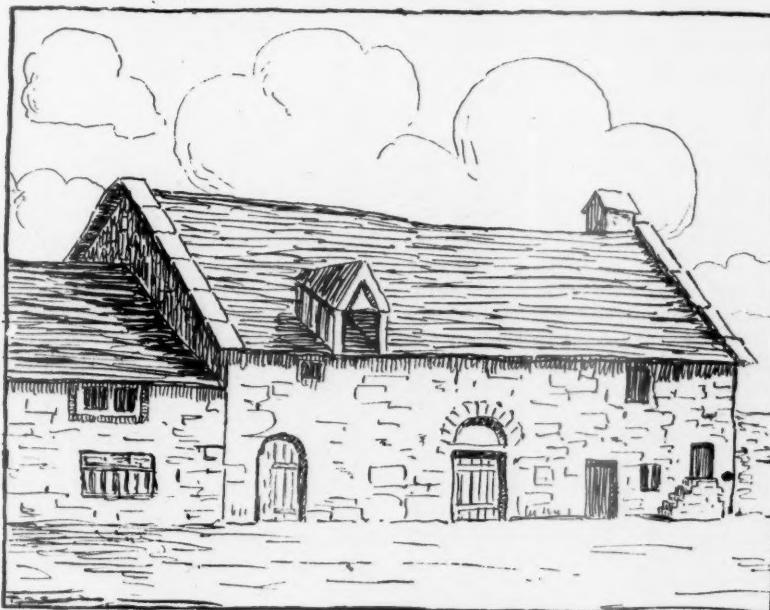
One of the finest historic churches in France is threatened with utter ruin. It is the parish church of Limourgier, near Narbonne, which dates from the eleventh century, and is included in the official list of ancient places of national interest which are catalogued for preservation. The vaulting collapsed the other day, and it is anticipated that the whole building will have to be pulled down.



An ancient building at Machynlleth has lately been offered for sale by private treaty, which, it has been suggested, was once part of the house in which Owen Glyndwr held a Parliament in 1403. For the block of the sketch reproduced on the next page we are indebted to the courtesy of the proprietor of the *Oswestry Advertiser*. The building, says that journal, "is not a very striking one, and, but for the historic associations which some people believe it to possess, it would hardly attract

the attention of the passer-by. In fact, it suggests at the present day the utility of a barn rather than the magnificence of a parliament house!" Mr. A. G. Bradley, in his *Owen Glyndwr*, says: "Tradition still points out the house at Machynlleth where gathered the first and almost the only approach to a parliament that ever met in Wales. It stands nearly opposite the gates of Plás Machynlleth, an unnoticeable portion of the street—in fact, a long low building now in part adapted to the needs of a private

oldest relic of our insular Christianity now remaining. Without pinning our faith to the accuracy of the claim, there is, at any rate, no question that it is one of the very oldest and most interesting relics of early Christianity in Britain. That it has been preserved to us at all is due to the fact of its having been buried in the sands from an early period until 1830, when it was once more exhumed, since which time it has been exposed to the ravages of wind and weather, and the hardly less destructive attacks of curio-hunting



OWEN GLYNDWR'S REPUTED HOUSE AT MACHYNLETH.

residence, and having nothing suggestive about it but the thickness of its walls."



Amongst the many relics of a remote past which render Cornwall so rich in attraction for the lover of antiquities, few, if any, surpass in interest the little ruined oratory of St. Piran in the sands at Perranzabuloe. Here we have the remains of the actual building in which one of the early pioneers of British Christianity preached the Gospel to the Celtic inhabitants of the district. It is even claimed for the building that it is the

tourists. A movement has now been set on foot for its preservation by draining the site, under-pinning the walls, and replacing the long-vanished roof, the cost of which, according to the architect's estimate, will be £500.



In the beginning of this month (says the *Scotsman* of May 28) Mr. Hourston, tenant of the farm of Yinstay, on the Tankerness estate, Orkney, belonging to Mr. Baikie, was engaged in fencing operations, and when digging a hole for a straining post his spade fell from his hands and disappeared underground.

Curious to unravel the mystery, he excavated a few feet off, and breaking through rough masonry, effected an entrance to an underground chamber of very peculiar structure, into which the spade had fallen. Mr. Cursiter, F.S.A.Scot., Kirkwall, who visited the place, has supplied the following information regarding it. On approaching the spot, one cannot fail to observe that the place has been an ancient inhabited site, from the black earth mingled with burnt stones, numerous broken shells and bones, as well as fragments of ancient pottery, which strew the surface of the adjoining field. It is the highest ground in the neighbourhood, and surmounted by a lime-built cairn about 10 feet high, said to have been originally erected by Captain Thomas during his nautical survey of the Orkneys, 1840-1850, from stones dug up at the spot, among which blocks of bright red sandstone foreign to the district figure prominently. Most probably it has been the site of a broch. Tradition tells of a standing stone here, said to have been destroyed by a bauldie, who took it for the devil. The opening to the chamber, which is only 3 or 4 feet below the surface, and only a few feet from the cairn, is very difficult to negotiate, and can only be accomplished feet foremost, working oneself down sideways, and on the back; indeed, the whole internal space and condition do not allow of enough comfort to obtain an accurate survey. With the aid of two candles, however, and assisted by Mr. Hourston, it was in a way explored. It is of an irregular oval shape, about 19 feet long from east to west, and about 10 feet in greatest breadth. The roof, which is flat, is formed of flagstones, and supported upon nine apparently water-worn stones set upon end, forming pillars. The height of the roof is about 2 feet 6 inches, and the pillars number eleven, arranged at the west end in two rows of four pillars each, opposite each other, and three pillars in the form of a triangle at the east end. They are separated from each other at distances varying from 8½ inches to 3 feet, and themselves vary much in size and sectional shape. The floor and walls were so muddy from infiltration that it could not be made out whether it was paved or not, and part of the wall seemed to be solid rock. The real entrance has not yet been discovered.

In the chamber were picked up fragments of deer's horn, bones, and teeth of horned sheep, oyster and whelk-shells, burnt wood, and a few fragments of rather fine pottery.

On May 26, while a party of men were engaged in sinking the foundations for a new railway-bridge across the Foyle, at the town of Lifford, on the Strabane to Letterkenny Railway, they came upon an old wall, believed to be a portion of a castle of the O'Donnells of Donegal. It is situated between Lifford Gaol and the River Foyle, and near to a place known as the "Castle hole." A good deal of curiosity is centred in this discovery, and the excavations will be watched with much interest (says an Ulster paper), especially as it is believed that a subterranean passage crosses the river at this spot which was used by the O'Donnells when attacking their enemies, the O'Neils of Tyrone.

The *Builder* of June 9 had a good article on the Norman church at Steyning, the small but ancient town which lies about twelve miles to the north-west of Brighton. "The peculiar richness of the late Norman work of the interior of the nave," says the writer, "and the dignity of the lofty early clearstory, have naturally attracted the attention of genuine lovers of church architecture both of the past and present." Mr. Bond gives several plates of the nave piers—the capitals of which are of great beauty and variety—in his recent splendid work on Gothic architecture. These excellent ecclesiastical articles are an attractive feature of our contemporary.

A Gallo-Roman tomb of quite unusual importance has lately been discovered near Nimes, on the old Roman road near that leading to Beaucaire. It was that of a young girl, and contained a magnificent cinerary urn of alabaster, a coffer with a golden necklace set with gems, a gold ring with an exquisite cameo representing Eros, an ivory measure, and a large number of vases, phials, and toys in bronze, pottery, and amber, including a superb mirror, one face of which is also of amber. The tomb, in fact, furnished a rare example of the complete equipment of such for the burial of a member of a wealthy family. Both it and the various utensils, etc.,

have now been placed in the Archæological Museum at Nîmes.

A Paris newspaper correspondent says that the Abbé Brard, Vicar of Creton, has found near the old Roman road at Evreux Chartres quite a Roman treasure buried in a pot, which lay in the ground at the depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. There were 2,400 coins in the pot. They bore the effigies of Julius Cæsar, Augustus, Marcus Aurelius, and other Roman Emperors and Empresses. There were also numerous medals commemorative of battles. All the coins are in a good state of preservation.

The National Museum in the Baths of Diocletian, Rome, has received a magnificent addition in the old Roman bronzes submerged in the Lake of Nemi for nearly 2,000 years and brought to the surface in October, 1895. These have been placed in a small upper room, which has just been opened to the public. Most of the exhibits are ornaments taken from the two Tiberian ships which it is hoped one day to raise from the depths of the lake. Chief in importance is a splendid Medusa. A strongly-modelled arm and hand in the true archaic style is also of extreme interest, while the lion, hyena, and wolf-heads, with rings pendant, are wonderful specimens of their kind. Some remains of the old timber-work, thickly studded with giant nails, are also included in the collection. Signor Borghi, to whose enterprise the recovery of these gems of ancient art is due, was offered £12,000 for the collection by the New York Museum. The provisions of the Pacca law, however, stood in the way of exportation, and the whole of the objects were acquired by the Italian nation for £5,040.

"Mr. Garstang, whose return from Egypt was recorded last week," says a writer in the *Liverpool Daily Courier* of June 9, "reports to me that he has had one of the most fruitful periods of work in his experience as an Egyptian archæologist. After finishing some work left over from last year at Esneh, he pushed on into Nubia on the search for traces of prehistoric man. At Kostamneh he was fortunate to discover a prehistoric burying-ground; he found here about two hun-

dred graves absolutely undisturbed, rich in vases, copper implements, and the like, *trouvaille* of great value for the understanding of the life of that far-off time. Kostamneh appears to have been a stage on the journey of prehistoric man from Somaliland down into Egypt; for many, clearly, a last halting-place. The authorities of the museum at Cairo have generously waived their claim to the archæological treasures found at Kostamneh, and Mr. Garstang has brought them to Liverpool. This does not exhaust Mr. Garstang's discoveries. He went on to Abydos, the most famous necropolis in all Egypt, and was successful in discovering there some inscriptions of the Hyksos time, which he regards as of great historical importance. This success is the more gratifying in that Abydos has been regarded by some archæologists as an exhausted field."

An exhibition of Mr. Garstang's important collection of Egyptian antiquities has just been opened in the upper transept of the Lord Derby Museum, Liverpool. There will be two exhibitions of Egyptian antiquities in London this month (July). The Egypt Exploration Fund will have an exhibition in the rooms of the Society of Biblical Archæology, in Great Russell Street, of the antiquities obtained by Professor Naville and Mr. Hall by their explorations at Der-el-Bahri. Professor Petrie will show, at University College, the results of his extensive explorations in Lower Egypt. There will also be some interesting objects from the Jewish temple built by Onias.

Dr. Marcel Baudouin and M. G. Lacoulomère have communicated to the Society of Anthropology of Paris an account of their discovery at Plessis au Bernard (Vendée) of a fallen dolmen, called the Dolmen of the Scaffold, and of their excavations and partial reinstatement of it. The same authors have communicated to the Prehistoric Society of France an account of their discovery of a megalithic structure at Morgaillon, and have published a work on the prehistoric remains at Apremont, both in the same department.

Mr. I. Maclellan Mann, F.S.A. Scot., records the discovery of a fine earthenware cup

lying horizontally, under many feet of sand, in a sand-pit near Bathgate, Linlithgowshire. The vessel, writes Mr. Mann, is of the "drinking-cup" class. It has been decorated by impressing into the soft clay (before the clay was fired) a thin, tightly-twisted cord. The cord was most carefully wound spirally fifty-nine times round the exterior of the cup and three times round the interior near the rim. Midway up the wall, the cord impressions have become blurred before the clay was fired. The artist has very neatly imitated the lines of the cord impressions by putting in a series of little notches over the blurred area, using some pointed tool.

In the *Oban Times* of June 2, Mr. Mann had an interesting article on "The Pre-Historic Hut-Dwellers of Tiree," in which he described a relic bed in Tiree which he discovered in July of last year. Other recent newspaper antiquarian articles worth noting have been "The Cary Family" in *Exeter Flying Post*, June 9; "Bristol One Hundred Years Ago" in the *Bristol Times and Mirror*, June 5; a description of the recent important addition of Thibetan curios made to the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, in the *Scotsman*, May 17; "The Testimony of our Earthworks" in the *Saturday Review*, June 9; "More About Ancient Swanage," by W. M. Hardy, in the *Dorset County Chronicle*, June 7 and 14; an article by Mr. David MacRitchie, F.S.A. Scot., on some of the inhabitants of Great Britain at the time of the Roman invasion, under the title of "Blue Folk and Green Folk," in the *Glasgow News*, June 14; and a good paper on "Salle Church, Norfolk," with very fine photographic illustrations, in *Country Life*, May 26.

The *Daily Graphic* of June 9 reproduced a photograph of some of the tree trunks, part of the original foundations, which divers have removed from under the east side of the presbytery of Winchester Cathedral. The trunks, which have been made rotten by water, have now been replaced by sacks of Portland cement. Specimens of the logs will be placed in the local museum after they have been carefully dried by a process which is expected to take from six to twelve months.

Mr. Frederick F. Ogilvie has been showing at the Modern Gallery, New Bond Street, an interesting collection of his paintings of Egyptian temples, including the new discoveries at the Temple of Mentuhetep III. at Der el Bahri, and of various places on the Nile.

The work of excavation at Caerwent (the Silurum of the Romans) is to be resumed very shortly. Since last autumn Lord Tredegar has purchased the property adjoining a portion of the site, which was yielding specially interesting results, and he has also bought a large grass field in the north-east part of the city, which will add about five acres to the area available for excavation. The cost of the operations last year amounted to about £250, and the committee are again appealing confidently for support. An official report of this work, which will shortly be issued, will contain a detailed account of the excavation of the southern gateway, which seems to differ in some important particulars from the northern entrance. The other discovery of special interest during 1905 was that of a curious octagonal tank or bath. Some distance to the north of this structure a fine hypocaust was uncovered two years ago, and it is thought the two may have formed part of a public bath, but an intervening garden has formed an obstacle to the complete excavation of the building. The collection of smaller finds turned out in 1905 was more than usually interesting. Mr. A. Price Martin is still acting as secretary, and, as before, the excavations will be superintended by Mr. Thomas Ashby.

The annual general meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association will be held at Carmarthen from August 13 to 17, under the chairmanship of Sir John Williams, Bart.

In next month's *Antiquary* we hope to print the first part of a paper by Mrs. E. S. Armitage on "The Norman Origin of Irish Mottes," the aim of which will be to sustain the contention expressed in the title against the arguments to the contrary urged by Mr. J. T. Westropp in papers which have appeared in the *Proceedings* of the Royal Irish Academy, and in the *Journal* of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.

A recent addition to the department of Greek antiquities in the British Museum is a valuable group of antiquities obtained from the Athenian tomb of a young girl. First, there is a curious terra-cotta group representing a girl seated on a high-backed throne. The figure is nude, and made to take out of the seat. The arms are movable, like some of the Egyptian figures, and in the right hand is an ivory dove. There were found in the tomb several objects for women's use; a terra-cotta protector for the knee when carding wool, and a model of a pair of boots.



In the Archaic Room the columns from the Treasury of Atreus, at Mycenæ, which were given to the Museum two years ago by the Marquis of Sligo, have been erected, and the doorway carefully reconstructed. These original columns stood on either side of the doorway, resting on low bases of three steps. They are of bluish-yellow breccia, and are fine examples of the archaic art of the later Mycenaean age, about 1000 B.C.



A Reuter's telegram, dated June 12, says that at the last plenary meeting of the Berlin Academy of Sciences some interesting details were given of the success attained by the Prussian Exploration Expedition to Chinese Turkestan. A letter was read from Professor Gruenwedel, dated "Komura, near Kutch, February 21, 1906," stating that the Mingoi Caves had been explored, but that the expected find of manuscripts had proved insignificant, the Japanese having cleared most of them away in 1903. Most interesting archaeological discoveries, however, were made. Remains were found of persons belonging to a red-haired, blue-eyed race, evidently the founders of the temple in the Mingoi Caves, and bearing garments of unmistakably Iranian origin. A number of huge iron swords were also discovered. Search revealed the existence of further numerous Buddhist frescoes containing many figures. The temple seemed, in fact, to have been a sort of Buddhist Pantheon.



Father Grisar publishes in the current number of the *Civiltà Cattolica* a complete list and description of all the objects which he has discovered in the Sancta Sanctorum

treasury at the Scala Santa—a treasury which he has been the first person to open since Leo X. exhibited the sacred objects to the people nearly four hundred years ago. Father Grisar, says the Rome correspondent of the *Morning Post* under date June 12, found these various objects all contained in a wooden cabinet beneath the altar of the chapel. This cabinet was made, as the inscription on it says, by order of Pope Leo III., who crowned Charlemagne in St. Peter's, and is therefore 1,100 years old. Upon opening this cabinet, Father Grisar found inside it a large gold enamelled cross, upon one side of which are depicted seven scenes from the life of Christ, while the other side is plain. He surmises that this is none other than the famous cross which was discovered by Pope Sergius I. at the end of the seventh century in the sacristy of St. Peter's, and which, according to the *Liber Pontificalis*, contained a piece of the true Cross. Father Grisar thinks that this was also the cross to which Pope Stephen II. affixed the violated promise of the Lombard king, Astolf, in the middle of the eighth century. The cabinet also contained another gold cross set with large jewels, one arm of which is, however, unfortunately broken. Among the other contents were two silver boxes, intended to hold the two crosses, and made by order of Pope Paschal I. in the early part of the ninth century, as is proved by the appearance of his name on one of the boxes. Three other silver boxes have been found, one for the head of St. Agnes, the second for containing that of St. Pudentiana, and the third, originally used, according to the catalogue, as the receptacle for "the sandals of our Lord Jesus Christ." The second of these three boxes still has on its lid four of the twelve original medallions of enamel, as well as the figures of Christ, the Virgin, and St. John the Baptist, while on one side are two fine statuettes of St. Basil and St. Gregory Nazianzen, the author of the "Christus Patiens." Besides these boxes, Father Grisar discovered an ivory casket with a peacock and other birds painted on it, a similar casket of wood and ivory, both probably used for containing relics; an oval case of silver with a representation of the Annunciation upon it; a

fragment of an ivory pyx with a pagan scene; an ivory tablet depicting the healing of the man born blind; various reliquaries; an ancient Agnus Dei; sponges of St. Praxedis; and many relics. Finally, he found some very ancient woven cloths, used for wrapping up relics, and the remains of the silver covering of a reliquary, with good thirteenth-century engraving, relating to the death of St. Peter. He therefore assumes that this came from the ancient case which contained the heads of the two Apostles. It will be seen that his discovery is of the highest interest.



At the annual meeting of the subscribers to the Palestine Exploration Fund, held on June 13, Sir Charles Warren presiding, Mr. R. A. S. Macalister, director of excavations, gave an illustrated address on the work accomplished at Gezer during the past three years. When Mr. Macalister began work at Gezer no one expected that he would find the untouched cremated remains of a cave-dwelling race unacquainted with metal, or the undisturbed dead of one of the Canaanite tribes, with their bronze weapons and food-vessels of hand-made pottery, or a Canaanite "high place," with the proofs of infant sacrifice. Yet such discoveries have been made. The permit under which the excavations were conducted expired in September last, and the work at Gezer ceased. The Ottoman Government has been asked to grant a new permit, and a fresh site has been provisionally chosen, in which there is every reason to hope for a successful result. To the objection that the accumulation of measurements of tombs, of facts about pottery and scarabs and other antiquities, had no bearing on the Bible and its message, Mr. Macalister answered that one never knew when a fact apparently of mere archaeological interest might prove full of suggestion for the Bible student. The discovery of a basketful of jar handles stamped with potters' names had smoothed away difficulties in a passage in the Book of Chronicles that had been an enigma to every generation of commentators. But the ravages of dealers, their agents, and their customers were now rapidly impoverishing the archaeological field in Palestine; wholesale destruction was being wrought in almost every important site in

the country; and it was therefore necessary to be unsparing of energy, so that the field might be thoroughly explored while it was yet capable of bearing fruitful result.



The *City Press* of June 9 contained an interesting article, with an illustration, on a seventeenth-century cottage—a two-story erection, with a couple of attics of a kind which abound in old country districts—which until a very few weeks ago continued to exist "right in the heart of the city, just where Throgmorton Street empties its teeming throngs into Old Broad Street, and where that busy thoroughfare takes a sweep to the left by the Stock Exchange." The interior was not particularly remarkable, though some of the rooms, most of them completely wood-panelled, had curious peculiarities. But the cottage is gone, and with it one more of the few surviving relics of seventeenth-century London.



The Discoveries of Roman Remains at Sicklesmere, and Villa Faustini.

BY G. BASIL BARHAM.



OWARDS the end of August, 1904, whilst investigating in a gravel-pit at Sicklesmere, a hamlet distant about two miles south of Bury St. Edmunds, the writer noticed certain depressions in the sides, filled with a fine black earth. These on examination were found to be refuse-pits, evidently, from the nature and condition of the contents, of considerable antiquity. The finding of a fragment of Samian ware at once lent interest to them, as, in spite of the contentions of Camden, Burton, and Talbot, that Bury St. Edmunds marked the site of Villa Faustini of the Iter V. of the *Itinerarium Britanniarum* of Antoninus, no traces of Roman occupation had previously been found so near that town.

A short account of the pits appeared in the *Standard* of September 10, 1904, and in the *East Anglian Daily Times* of the 12th, but in view of later discoveries it may be of interest to briefly mention their contents.

A search conducted, owing to pressure of professional duties, somewhat hastily, resulted in the finding of considerable quantities of broken Samian and Romano-British pottery, together with bones of animals, oyster-shells, and wood ashes. Some fragments of broken building tile, cement, furnace slag, and the like, were also obtained therefrom, together with odd pieces of metal (bronze and iron, nails, etc.), three bronze coins of Faustini II. (A.D. 175), and two silver denarii of Severus Alexander (A.D. 22c).

A search over the neighbouring fields resulted in the picking up of innumerable fragments of Romano-British ware, and inquiries locally proved that these "sherd's" were frequently ploughed or dug up.

The deductions made at the time were, briefly, that these were not the pits of a camp, for if so animal bones would be found in quantity instead of being comparatively scarce; that they were probably the pits of two distinct dwellings, as they were evidently co-existent; that they represented the accumulation of a considerable period; and that the dwellings were occupied by persons of wealth and social standing, as evidenced by the quantities of oyster-shells. The bringing of oysters in such quantity from Colchester, a distance of some thirty odd miles, would at that time represent an amount of cost and labour which would be beyond the reach of a poor citizen.

Very shortly afterwards I came across three other refuse-pits in different parts of the gravel-pit, and the great quantity of sherd's, etc., placed beyond doubt the fact that a considerable settlement had existed there.

The matter then stood over for some time, as I hoped that the local archaeological society might deem it of interest, and give some little time to its investigation. Recently, however, after a considerable lapse of time, I recommenced examination, with results that appear to me of such importance as to justify my making them public.

Sicklesmere stands on the new turnpike road to Sudbury, at the point where the old road through Great Whelnetham meets it, these two roads forming, with the continuing road to Bury, a Y of a fairly broad angle. At the point of intersection, standing high from the

road, is a plantation, and at the back thereof lies the first or, as I may term it, No. 1 gravel-pit. This pit measures some 80 by 30 yards, and in 104 yards showed five refuse-pits in its walls. Immediately below the fork of the Y runs a tributary of the Lark, and on its left bank, distant some 100 odd yards from No. 1 pit, lies a smaller gravel-pit which we may call No. 2. Still further away, distant some 400 yards from No. 1, stands pit No. 3, of very considerable extent. In this pit numbers of the black earth pits have been cut through and their contents strewn to waste, although here and there some workman, recognising something out of the common, has saved a chance lamp, more than usually perfect pot, or strangely shaped piece of bronze. From this pit I have the halves of several mortaria of gray ware, prominently showing the characteristic small pebbles, portions of amphoreæ, pateræ, and so on. On account of the height, I have been unable to examine the top soil as I should like, but, from what I have seen and heard from the men employed in the pit, such remains have been very common. I have one gray ware vase, almost perfect, some 33 inches in circumference by 16 inches in height, from this pit.

The space between this pit and pit No. 2 is built upon, and, as the top soil over the black earth is on the average 18 inches thick, nothing of account has been dug up, so far as I can learn, in the gardens—"just a sherd here and there." In pit No. 2 many pottery fragments and coins, in very bad condition, have been found in the top soil, but here, so far as I can ascertain, the black earth pits have not been met with. In the field, and the allotment gardens lying between this pit and the old road, numbers of coins have been picked up, whilst the fragments of tile, pot, etc., are so common that they can be picked from the roadside heaps of stones gathered from the fields.

During the first week in April of this year I went over to Sicklesmere and visited pit No. 1, and found that the men had cut through one of the previously mentioned pits, and had laid bare another lying behind it. This was particularly rich in Samian fragments, and I was fortunate enough to find several things of interest, such as ivory

bodkins, metal, and some bases of pateræ, bowls, etc., with the potter's name intact, a very nice fibula, and a knife in excellent preservation. Mr. C. H. Read, of the British Museum, very kindly identified the pottery as the work of *BELINNICI . M.* and *AELIANVS . M.*, Gaulish potters of Lesoux, Puy de Dome, of the first century. I also found half a ciborium of red Samian ware, made by *DIVIXTUS*, a Gaulish potter (A.D. 70-75). A few days afterwards, whilst looking for further portions of this, I came across fragments of five similar bowls of the same maker, as well as bronze pins, ornaments, and the like.

So far, then, we are able to speak with certainty regarding this Roman settlement as follows :

It was a settlement of considerable size, and occupied by people of good position, as shown by the extent covered by the pits and their contents, such as the oyster-shells mentioned, the ivory pins, and the great quantities of Samian ware.

It was a settlement, at any rate, at the beginning of the second century, as shown by the numbers of fragments of first-century ware of similar design. It is, for instance, impossible to imagine that six bowls of the same potter could exist for any great length of time, and then be broken within a short time of one another, and be thrown into the same pit with countless other fragments of first-century ware. The fact that the fragments include portions of practically every variety of pottery, such as Samian, black, gray, red, brown, and yellow, from the rough mortaria to the fine and delicate black ware cups, bears out our contention as to the size of the settlement.

The quantity of rough Romano-British pottery of later date found in the neighbouring fields speaks as to the length of occupation ; the fragments of Saxon pottery as well as the name of the hamlet—Sicklesmere, Siddolaysmere, Sidulvesmere, or Sidulf's mere (?)—show that as the Romans went out the Saxons came in, thus lending strength to the theory that this was a place of good size and importance.

We are, then, justified in assuming that this was a pre-Antonine station, and it was approached by a pre-Antonine road.

Further, there are no traces whatever of any form of fortification. But as means of defence were necessary, in a hostile region, for a first or second century station, it follows that the road was a formed military road along which troops could pass, and were in the habit of passing freely ; and on searching further along the road, which went, as far as can be traced, on to Colchester, we find at Cockfield, some six or seven miles further on, the remains of the great Roman camp called locally the "War Banks."

It thus wou'd appear evident that, previously to the Iter V. of Antonine, a strong, dominant camp existed at Cockfield, covering many acres of ground, thrown across and protecting an excellent military road, and that within a few miles lay what one might term a residential resort, occupied by Romans of standing. It would seem that, now the vexed question of the localities of the stations mentioned in Iter V. and IX. of Antonine are attracting a renewed amount of interest, the probability of this important first or second century settlement being one of the Antonine stations is worthy of more than a cursory thought. I would point out that, taking Colchester to be *Colonia*, the distance given by Antonine to *Villa Faustini* is mpm. xxxv., and the distance from Sicklesmere by the road mentioned would be the same. Passing back to the War Banks, or the dominant camp, and then journeying to the north, picking up on the way the Roman villa at Rougham (Eastlow Hills), the burial-place* of which was discovered by Professor Henslow, on to Ixworth, the *Icenos* of the Iter, as suggested by Rev. Canon Raven, of Fressingfield, we make approximately seventeen and a half miles, which compares most favourably with Antonine's statement that from "Villa Faustini to Icenos mpm. xviii." The suggestion that Sicklesmere marks the site of Villa Faustini may be untenable, but at any rate it is worthy of discussion.

* Since writing the above, I have closely examined the pottery discovered in the tomb, and find it the work of, in the case of the simpula, *ALBUCIUS* and *ILIOMARIS*, both of Lesoux, the former early second century, the latter first. There were in the tomb also two pateræ of *MICCIO . F.* and *ALIVSA* or *ALVSA*, both of which I am unable to place. Perhaps some canonadar give the date of these Gaulish potters.

Buckfast Abbey: the "Phœnix of the West."^{*}

BY OLIVE KATHARINE PARR.

FN a number of the *Gentleman's Magazine* for the year 1796 there occurs the following passage:

"On the north side appear the walls and foundations of this once splendid seat of superstition, the abbey church and remains of its tower all lying in such massy fragments that it is scarcely to be conceived by what power so vast a fabrick could be disjointed. The walls appear to be composed of small stones in layers, and a compost of lime and sand, which we supposed to have been thrown on these layers hot, after the manner antiently used in such large buildings, which, incorporating together, formed a mass as solid as the native rock. The ruins of this church appear to be about 250 feet in length, and the ruins of the tower towards the south seem like huge and vast rocks piled on one another."

These words were written concerning Buckfast Abbey in South Devon, and could their writer now see this "phœnix of the west," after the lapse of more than a century, astonishment, and presumably delight, would be his portion. But as he has long since passed into "the silent life," we of the twentieth century must take up the tale which is, indeed, absolutely unique. Tintern, Fountains, Waverley, Glastonbury, and Tavistock still lie in ruins. Buckfast alone has arisen from the ashes of the past, and, more even than that, has reverted to the descendants of her original founders, the monks of St. Benedict.

The earliest extant mention of the existence of this great abbey is a grant by King Canute

of the Manor of Sele, now Zeal Monachorum, near Down St. Mary, twenty-two miles from Buckfast. The exact year of the foundation is lost in antiquity, but it seems probable that it was built in the reign of Edgar, during the monastic revival of St. Dunstan, if not earlier. Its original founders were the "Black Monks," the Benedictines, but it has not always belonged to this illustrious Order. In the twelfth century the abbey passed into the hands of the "White Monks," the Cistercians, to whom it belonged until the Dissolution in 1538.

The possessions of the abbey in early days were very extensive, and it was one of the South Devon centres of learning and industry. In the reign of Edward the



ANCIENT ARMS OF BUCKFAST ABBEY.

Confessor, or, as Domesday quaintly puts it, "on the day when King Edward was alive and dead," ninety-two villeins, ninety bordars, and sixty-seven serfs were required for the cultivation of the lands in the immediate vicinity of the abbey. But the largest portion of the local industry was the celebrated woollen trade, still carried on at Buckfast and Ashburton, and the track from Buckfast to Tavistock, which was wont to be traversed by pack-laden mules bearing the woollen manufactures of the abbey, is still known as "the Abbot's way." Dom William Giffard, a Devonshire Abbot, in the thirteenth century obtained a royal privilege

* Authorities:
 1. Various charters.
 2. *Devonshire Society's Transactions*.
 3. *Cistercian Houses of Devon*, by J. Brooking Rowe.
 4. Oliver's *Monasticon Exoniense*.
 5. Churchwardens' accounts of Ashburton, from MSS. of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.
 6. An unpublished MS. history of Buckfast Abbey in possession of Dr. James Gale of Plymouth.

for a weekly market at Buckfastleigh and a yearly Michaelmas fair at Brent, which are carried on to this day. The abbey also owned lands far and near, such as the manors of Ash, Staverton, and North and South Brent, besides land in the village of Holne (the birth-place of Charles Kingsley), in whose ancient church the Buckfast arms are still to be seen.

Each Abbot of Buckfast, besides being a simple monk and an ecclesiastical dignitary, was also a farmer, a manufacturer, a landlord, and a nobleman with a goodly army of retainers. He ranked as a feudal baron,

meaning "Deerfastness," suggested by the herds of red deer that were accustomed to descend for refreshment to the Dart, upon whose bank the abbey stands. The design of the seal is explained by the fact that the abbey is "S. Mary's," and in a certain act of donation of the thirteenth century, wherein one Richard Bauzan grants all his land at Holne to the abbey, the monks are called by the quaint title, "Deo et *Beatae Mariae* servientibus in loco qui dicitur Buckfast," and Charter Roll, 43 Henry III., M. I., confirms this donation.

Buckfast Abbey was not infrequently an



BUCKFAST ABBEY: REMAINS OF NORTH GATE.

which fact explains his armorial bearings and his title of "Lord." According to Mr. Rowe, the arms of the abbey are: Sable, a crozier in pale argent, the crook or, surmounted by a stag's head caboshed of the second, horned, gules. The seal—an impression of which is appended to the deed of surrender of 1538, this deed being now in the Record Office—is the Madonna and Child under a canopy, with the inscription "*S. Convéntus Bucfestriae*," and the Abbot's private seal is an arm grasping a crozier, with the words: "*Sigill. abb; de Buc festa.*" The origin of the arms is explained by the name "Buckfaesten," a Saxon word

object of regard—though not always desirable regard—on the part of various kings. One of the most interesting of the royal charters concerning the abbey is that of Henry II. confirming the rights enjoyed by the monks under his grandfather, for this charter is signed by Thomas the Chancellor, afterwards St. Thomas of Canterbury. Sad to relate, one of St. Thomas's murderers was a Devonshire man, Sir William de Tracey, who, after the deed, fled back to his manor of Skeradon for refuge. When the terrible news reached the Abbey, the reigning Abbot ordered out his vassals for the arrest of Tracey, who,

however, succeeded in making his escape. But the old proverb,

All the Tracies
Have the wind in their faces,

so well known to Devonians, is said to have originated after the commission of this crime. Another royal charter, granted through the medium of the celebrated Chancellor William Longchamps, and dated at Bury St. Edmunds, November 18, 1189, confirms the abbey privileges besides adding to them.

King John, we are told, exacted from the White Monks the sum of 23,000 marks "brevissimo temporis spatio," in order to carry on his Irish wars; and during these turbulent times His Majesty entrusted his crown jewels and other treasures to the monks of Buckfast for safe-keeping. In 1215 he writes to "my Lord Abbot," requesting that his property may be returned by two of the monks.

In 1281 the Abbot is summoned, at "the suit of the Lord Our King" (Edward I.), to answer for various rights, and, sixteen years later, King Edward visited the abbey in person *en route* from Exeter to Plymton, His Majesty, it is thought, being at that time in need of pecuniary assistance. The old arch of the north gate, under which the King passed on April 1, 1297, is still standing.

In 1372 Abbot John Beaumont received the royal mandate to arm his vassals for the defence of the Devonshire coast after the Spanish victory off Rochelle, and another similar writ was issued in 1377 against "our foes in France." But from then onwards to the sixteenth century the abbey appears to have had a peaceful time, broken by nothing more serious than lawsuits about the Dart fisheries and poaching upon the Lord Abbot's extensive preserves.

We now come to the momentous date of 1535, when the storm-cloud gathered over the stately abbey, not to disperse until its destruction was complete three years later.

Abbot John Rede died in 1535 or 1536, and as no Abbot was selected from the Buckfast community, he is considered as the last lawful lord of St. Mary's. The Royal Commissioners visited Buckfast at this epoch, with the result that a certain Gabriel Donne,

a Cistercian of Stratford, was placed in the abbatial chair. We are told that Donne was a man "of consummate worldly wisdom," and he had been employed by Cranmer in the apprehension of Tyndal at Antwerp. Donne proved himself to be a reliable tool, and reigned for two years as Abbot of Buckfast, when things were ripe for his final and supreme act of treachery. It was on February 25, 1538, that he handed over the abbey and its possessions to the King. The community then consisted of ten monks, out of whom it seems that one only, Prior Arnold Gye, protested to the end, thus forfeiting the pension with which each monk was rewarded. Donne, for his share, received an annual pension of £120 (equal to £1,800) and the Rectory of Stepney, besides being made residuary of St. Paul's by his old friend



SEAL OF BUCKFAST ABBEY.

Cranmer upon the deprivation of Bonner. The ex-Abbot lived for twenty years after vacating Buckfast Abbey, and died on December 5, 1558, leaving part of his estate for the foundation of a scholarship at Trinity College, Cambridge, where his arms are still to be seen on the roof of Trinity Hall, and where "Mr. Gabriel Donne's scholar" is to be found to this day.

After the exodus of the monks, the abbey buildings and land were sold to St. Thomas Dennis, a favourite of the King.

In the year 1630 Buckfast Abbey was still in the possession of the same family, Thomas Dennis, gentleman, occupying the property at this date. He died without male issue, leaving two daughters, the eldest being Anne, who married Sir Henry Rolle, and to whom the abbey descended. She, too, died without

issue, her property reverting to her husband's half-sister, Mary Cholmondeley, who married Sir John D'Oyley. Thus, Buckfast Abbey has twice been in the possession of a woman. The D'Oyleys sold their property at some period between the dates 1706 and 1721, from which latter year the ownership of the abbey has not apparently been traced. Its ruinous condition in 1796 was quoted in the passage at the beginning of this article, and in 1806 it was sold to a Mr. Berry, who levelled to the ground the remnants of the ruins, erecting a modern house on the site into whose walls he incorporated part of the old materials. The property was then sold to a

minute plans and measurements of the old monastic pile were taken, and it was soon found that the original foundations were standing. A restoration committee was formed with Lord Clifford as chairman, to whose magnificent generosity the rebuilding of the abbey is mainly due. The Society of Antiquaries gave a donation of £20 towards expenses.

Most interesting were the discoveries and relics found during the work of excavation. One was an Abbot's ring, which was dug up near the original high altar. Others were a leaden bulla of John XXII.; a fragment of stained glass bearing the figure of a pelican; pieces of carved stone of all varieties of architecture,



BUCKFAST ABBEY: VIEW FROM NORTH-EAST, WITH SOME OF THE OLD FOUNDATIONS OF CHURCH AND CLOISTER.

Mr. Bentall Searle, who sold it to a Dr. Gale of Plymouth, and this gentleman, in the year 1882, sold it to some monks of St. Benedict who had been expelled from France and sought refuge on Devonshire soil. June 19, 1882, was the date of the final act of conveyance of Buckfast Abbey to the Black Monks, upon which day, therefore, it passed back absolutely, after extraordinary vicissitudes, into the hands of the Order which originally founded it in the days of the Saxons.

Then began the work of excavation and restoration which has added the final touch to the abbey's wonderful history. Under the superintendence of Mr. F. Walters, architect,

ranging from early Norman to late Perpendicular; and a large portion of a statue of the Madonna, which has now been restored and erected in the temporary chapel. Another interesting relic is the enamelled door of a small shrine, a piece of early thirteenth century work, of which a similar example is in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries. And a really uncanny discovery was the finding of a skeleton in an old tomb near a spot where, according to the stories of the country people, an apparition was wont to appear yearly on the night of July 3.

The work of rebuilding began with the south portion of the pile, and not a foot of

new foundations had to be laid. Part of the jamb of the arched doorway leading from the cloister to the kitchen is the original one, and even the fireplace stands upon the old hearthstone, which was found overgrown with turf and still blackened by the last fire lighted upon it. Thus the cloister, cellarium, staircase, refectory and kitchen are all standing, stone for stone, upon their original site. The style of architecture is Norman, and the carved stone capitals, bosses, doorways and windows are reproduced from Fountains, Furness, and other similar places. The restored portion of the abbey was opened on April 29, 1886. The church has yet to be rebuilt, and it is hoped to begin this important work this year, which is the centenary of the abbey's complete destruction.

The reigning Lord Abbot of Buckfast is, in the light of history, a singularly interesting personage, for he was born to an unparalleled destiny, being the first Abbot with canonical succession to a monastery suppressed by Henry VIII. His Lordship is by blood a German, but he is also a legalized British subject, and is immensely loyal to the land of his adoption. At his request, a portrait of King Edward held the place of honour in the refectory beside a portrait of Leo XIII.; and, in proposing the health of the Pope, after the dinner following the ceremony of the abbatial blessing, the Abbot, Dom Boniface Natter, coupled the name of the King with that of the Pope, remarking that "Catholic obedience to the Holy See in things spiritual does not lessen, but confirms, the loyalty of Englishmen to the King." Another curious coincidence occurred regarding the day fixed for the great ceremony of the abbatial benediction. February 24 was decided on as fulfilling all the conditions of the rubrics, and after all the arrangements were complete, it was discovered that the very same day 365 years before had been the last day of community life lived by the monks of Buckfast. On February 25, 1538, Abbot Gabriel Donne resigned the abbey to the King, and on February 24, 1893, Abbot Boniface Natter succeeded to the old inheritance of his illustrious Order.

The monks of St. Benedict are remarkable for their austere life, which reads more like a romance of the Middle Ages than stern fact

of the twentieth century. And the silence; fasting, manual labour, and perpetual abstinence from flesh meat all convey the impression of an austere race of beings, living entirely apart from humanity and its interests. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The monks are engaged in the active work of the apostolate, and at times serve the famous convict prison at Prince Town, where they are immense favourites with the convicts. The Abbot himself works upon local committees and co-operates with various societies, even to one for the protection of wild birds. And, concerning the latter, his lordship, though naturally a most unassuming man, is apt to boast of how faithfully he keeps the rule to "wear no feathers in the hat."

The Benedictines, too, are a most hospitable Order, and have a guest-house for gentlemen attached to the abbey, which is situated in a lovely valley close to the Dart, and only four miles from the outskirts of the famous moor. In the experience of the present writer, it would be hard to find the equal of the austere Black Monks for courtesy, kindliness, geniality, and industry; and the historic Abbot, and yet more historic abbey, with its museum of old relics, are well worth a visit from all lovers of the romantic and the antique.



Walter de Langton and the Bishop's Dam.

BY K. A. PATMORE.



THE portrait of a great prelate hangs in the gallery of most imaginations, appealing, in one direction, by external aspect, in another by suggestiveness. The pastoral vestments, pure in tissue, mystical in colouring, and enriched with the work of cloistered fingers, "raiment of needlework" worthy of a Psalmist; the insignia of office, the gemmed mitre and crozier; on the breast the cross, and on the hand of benediction the ring wherein is hidden that fragment of the wood whence cometh salvation—some by obvious impression, some by subtle implication, fascinate

the contemplation. Yet much more does the aspect of power and of vicissitude arrest the gaze and paralyze the judgment of men. By this, the Corsican world-bandit has kept reason in prison for a hundred years ; by the same, the great statesmen-priests of the Middle Ages speak, though dead, to a day that has no use for their sacerdotalism.

Such a prelate was Walter de Langton, who, in two Plantagenet reigns, knew a combination of office, wealth and dignity in which there seemed no deficit, and who suffered also for a time the extremity of abasement, deprivation and imprisonment. With regard to his family history, much research leaves very poor result. We cannot attach him to the family of Stephen Langton, though the Archbishop had a brother, Walter de Langton, who is cursorily mentioned in a State record of *temp. Henry III.*, but who cannot be fixed upon as a relation to the later Walter.* He does not seem to figure as heir to any estate, and one chronicler speaks of him as "a poor clerk," raised by a royal patron to the summit of office. Poverty was no necessary appanage of the clergy, for we read about that time of one Hamon Peeche, who "was a priest, but had a great living." That he held land in Langton, in the county of Leicester, probably connects him with the local De Langton family. He received in 1306 a grant of free-warren for his lands in Langton and Thorpe-next-Langton, but record of their extent seems non-existent, and at his death he held a mere three acres from the Latimers, who were overlords of a manor held by members of the De Langton family in the same neighbourhood.

Fortune came early and in full tide, for Edward I. was his unwavering friend. The King speaks of him in a letter as "a pueritia sua familiariter nobiscum notum." That he was a very young man in 1291 may be reasonably inferred from the fact that he was still in minor orders when, in that year, he received as "Walter, clerk of the Wardrobe," a papal license to hold benefices, served by vicars, while himself absent on the King's

* It has been asserted that Stephen Langton had only one brother, but the entry in a Close Roll of Henry III. establishes the existence of Walter, a second brother to Stephen and Simon de Langton.

service. To instance a few only of his ecclesiastical honours, he was about that time Canon and Prebendary of York, Dean of the free Chapel of Bridgenorth (*Bruges*) in the county of Salop,* and a holder of stalls in other free chapels. Some of his appointments were at the special instance of his Sovereign. He was becoming as well a large landowner, and had license from the King to enclose a piece of woodland in the forest of Rockingham for the enlargement of his park at Ashley in Northamptonshire. His emissaries travelled beyond seas upon his business. After the Lord Chancellor, Bishop Burnell's, death, he was custodian of the great seal of England until the appointment of John de Langton to the office of Chancellor. Whether this John, who was later Bishop of Chichester, was more than a namesake, we cannot say, nor whether it was he who was executor to an early will of Walter, the clerk ; nor does the assertion that William de Langton, Dean of York, was Walter's uncle seem irrefutable.

In 1295, De Langton was appointed to be treasurer of the exchequer, and, in the following year, being already a chaplain to the Pope, he was appointed to the vacant see of Coventry and Lichfield, also known as the bishopric of Chester ; and being absent in France, received a license from Rome for consecration where occasion might offer. The rites were conferred at Cambrai by the hands of Cardinal Gotto.

It was at this time that De Langton made the one serious misjudgment of his life in urging the making of a marriage treaty between the Prince of Wales and a daughter of the Count of Flanders, which ended in a rupture ignominious to England. The story of the resistance of the Chancellor De Langton and his refusal to seal the treaty, and of how the Treasurer, by persuasion, obtained the use of the Great Seal and himself affixed its impress, being found in sources easily accessible, need not be dwelt upon at length. In few words, too, we may allude to De Langton's fiscal genius, and to his having, in one short year, called in the clipped and spurious coin of the realm, "crockards," "pollards," "steppings," and other

* The entry in the Patent Roll precludes the identification of this place with Bruges in Flanders.

names of mystery, and by new methods of assay restored the standard. For similar reasons, his brilliantly successful negotiations with the Scots in later years may be dismissed with brevity.

Smooth and sparkling as the sea of life seemed for Walter, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, a great storm was even then gathering against him, and at the beginning of the new century it burst. Among royal gifts to the young Keeper of the Wardrobe had been one from John, Duke of Brittany, the King's brother-in-law, of the wardship of William, heir of Bartholomew de Briançon, who was a minor at his father's death. This wardship had been earlier held by Eleanor, first Queen of Edward I. It seems that Bartholomew's widow, Joan, married Sir John de Lovetot, a landholder and neighbour of the De Briançons in Essex, and a descendant, through a surviving female branch, which had retained the maternal name, from the great Norman lords of Worksop and Sheffield. Sir John de Lovetot died in 1294, and was succeeded by his son John, born of a previous marriage, and it was by the agency of this Sir John de Lovetot, step-son of Joan, that the trouble came. A string of accusations against the Bishop was compiled by the knight and laid before the Roman pontiff, Boniface VIII. Simony and unlicensed pluralism were the least of the allegations, which passed on to interviews with the devil, and culminated in the murder by strangling of the late Sir John de Lovetot, and the introduction of the feminine element in the person of Joan in heinous association with the Bishop. The dealings of St. Dunstan with the devil made a wholesome parable; those ascribed to Bishop Walter and the functionary of evil must have strained the faculty of the most credulous. Such charges called for full investigation, and the Pope appointed Cardinal Gentile for this purpose, and summoned the Bishop from England. His tardiness in coming led to his suspension from his episcopal office. The weight of clerical and lay opinion was in favour of De Langton's innocence, and the King, an ardent partisan, wrote in moving terms to the Papal Sovereign and the Cardinals with regard to his Treasurer's wrongs "ex affectu intimo quem ad ipsum gerimus." So sore was his anger against De

Lovetot that Boniface himself wrote, urging upon him the propriety of restraining his recrimination against the knight until the cause had been tried. So unpopular was John that it would seem as though he might easily have been suppressed altogether. But the calm judicial spirit of the Roman Curia would not suffer such an aversion. Edward's anger indeed threatened a deadlock, and made him a team in need of wary handling; and the delicate nature of the situation is implied in the wording of a letter which Robert Winchelsey, Archbishop of Canterbury, in conjunction with the provincial of the Dominicans in England, wrote to the King petitioning for a grant of safe-conduct for John de Lovetot on his errand as accuser. "Humiliter," it runs, "et devote rogamus ob reverenciam dicte sedis"; the see of Peter might not suffer hindrance from kings.

Meanwhile, De Langton was detained in Rome, his absence covered honourably by his King with the pretext of a special embassy. All was now in train, but it was De Lovetot who, in the end, could not face the situation, and the cause was tried without him. The Bishop was brought before the Princes of the Church, and it may be surmised that no element of awe and solemnity was lacking; more terrible, too, than any civil judgment would be that of the papal vicegerents if guilt were proven. A packet, with a seal, was shown to him with the question whether that seal were his. To which he answered that that was certainly his seal. That being so, was the rejoinder, he must account for having written, in the letter to which the seal was fastened, a promise to John de Lovetot to pay him money for his silence concerning the death of the late Sir John. When this had burst upon him, the Bishop exclaimed that either his seal had been counterfeited by an enemy, or the true seal illicitly used by him. The further hearing of the cause was now referred to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was commanded by the Pope to try the same, assisted by the provincials of the Dominicans and Franciscans in England. The Bishop was sent back to England, having so far received, as the author of a sixteenth century MS. says, "but a slap with a fox-tail for his pains." Several chroniclers affirm that Winchelsey

had no friendship for De Langton, though the grounds of his hostility are not stated. The judgment was all the more impartial which, more than a year later, completely exculpated the Bishop from all the charges, it having also been found that the deceased Sir John de Lovetot had died a natural death.

De Lovetot's accusations were piled too high even for the non-judicial mind, and must have been suspect from the first to the astute ecclesiastical politicians of the Roman Curia and the English Commission alike. Was it hatred of a step-dame that moved him in the destroyed mental equilibrium symptomatic of a decaying stock? The story of the seal points to something darker. We hear a little later of the conviction of one John de Hauksarde for counterfeiting the Bishop's seal, and of his imprisonment in Newgate Gaol, from which he was released in 1306, when Margaret, the King's second wife, exerted royal prerogative in obtaining a pardon for him. Was he the agent or the tool of John de Lovetot? The accuser himself was presently brought to sore disgrace, being found guilty of having taken a wife while in minor orders, and it is even recorded that homicide was proved against him.

De Langton, now completely justified, was restored to his bishopric and all his honours late in 1303. Suffering of mind and pocket still remained, and the extent of the latter may be gauged by the fact that he was obliged to obtain a papal license to raise a loan of 7,000 florins to cover the expenses of his stay in Rome. The exactions of the papal officials may be blamed for this, but the cost of the journey alone, with the State retinue demanded of a dignitary in the Middle Ages, must have mounted high in the reign of Edward I. In that of Edward VII., an Archbishop of Westminster leaves Victoria Station unheeded by the crowd assembled to give a "send-off" to the worthy patriarch of the Salvation Army. *Tempora mutantur!*

The second and more terrible interruption of the Bishop's prosperity came at the death of Edward I., for Edward of Carnarvon was his bitter enemy, having, as some allege, been hampered in his prodigal extravagance by interference from the

Treasurer. He took revenge, some say, by breaking into the Bishop's parks and cruelly assaulting his servants. His accomplice was the baleful Gaveston, son of an esquire of Gascony, who had been from tenderest childhood his companion, and who was regarded by the Prince with an idolatry ill accordant with those limitations of friendship which are among royal penalties. Young Piers exploited the infatuation to its fullest in obtaining gifts and favours. The Bishop brought the matter of the trespass and assault before King Edward, who imprisoned his own son and sent Gaveston from the kingdom. But, his father dead, Edward II. instantly recalled his friend. The Bishop was with his Sovereign when he died upon the Border, and was chief executor of the royal testament, and, as custodian of the body, travelled with the funeral train to Westminster. He was not suffered to reach there, however, the indecent fool, now King, having sent to intercept him near Waltham, and the next four years were spent by the Bishop in prison at Wallingford, the Tower, and at York. Piers Gaveston, married to Margaret, the King's niece, and gifted with the county of Cornwall and other lands, received by royal grant the estates of Walter de Langton in several counties, and his treasure stored in London. Meanwhile both lay and priestly indignation boiled against the King. Finally a Papal Bull was issued, De Langton was released, splendid still in poverty and imprisonment, and shortly after the combination of the nobles led to the final disgrace and death of Gaveston. Even here the Bishop suffered, for having declined, with a magnificent aloofness, to take part where his own personal bias against the favourite was so strong, he was excommunicated by Winchelsea as an enemy to the cause of right. Then things swung round so that the King is found sueing to Pope Clement for the removal of the sentence. In the end, restored to fortune, honour, and office as Treasurer, he seems to have kept in favour with his Sovereign, who, released from the obsession of Gaveston, acquired a saner view of life; but the Bishop's career did not shine as in the former reign.

Such was, as a bird's-eye view, the official life of Bishop Walter, but it exhibits only

part of his wondrous versatility. Lichfield alone as a city and in its cathedral bears his mark ; her very stones cry out. It was he who encircled the close with a wall and built a residence for the vicars-choral. Across the fish-ponds which divide the northern part of the city from the southern he built a stone causeway with arches for the passage of the water, and Leland conjectures that he also built a smaller causeway between the second and third of these "stews." He obtained a license for civic works, and raised a loan for the cost of paving. In the cathedral, the beautiful Lady Chapel was his gift, and there, after his death in London in 1321, he was laid to rest. His effigy upon the tomb suffered something at the hands of the Parliamentarians of the seventeenth century. Another enrichment was the shrine of St. Chad, the patronal saint, which is said by William Whitlock, a Canon of Lichfield, to have cost £200,000. The error of this has been alluded to by the Rev. Charles Cox, LL.D., in editing the Sacrist's Roll of Lichfield Cathedral. Even the correct sum of £2,000 is sufficiently stupendous, present value being twenty-fold. For details of the gold and pearl-set cross and altar plate, and the costly vestments, which were other gifts, the same roll may be consulted. Besides all these undertakings, the Bishop pulled down and rebuilt his manor house at Eccleshall in Staffordshire, and his London palace in the Strand. Indeed, he was a man made upon a grand scale. If he stored up treasure and acquired great estate in many counties, he also knew how to lavish his wealth and gifts. Many a generous grant he made to the first Edward, and did not forget his son, for it is said that he bequeathed a chantry-fee for masses for the soul of his enemy ; also he improved the income of the Lichfield clergy by endowments.

Having seen our Bishop in his public aspects, let us seek a private episode. In our day the links of Hayling Island discover the genius of a Prime Minister, while an art school witnesses the holiday of a great orchestral conductor ; and De Langeton, too, had his leisure joys. In the Isle of Ely he owned the manor of Coldham, which, like all possessions in the great fen-land, was subject

to the "drowning" of the floods. Not far from Coldham one poor monastery was overwhelmed till "all the world was in the sea," and there was not sustenance for a solitary monk. The prelate's master mind refused to suffer defeat by the waters, and about the year 1300 he constructed in the bed of the Nene river a dam of sand and earth to keep the floods from Coldham—a dam so sound and strong that it stood for over thirty years without repair, and increased the annual value of the estate by £40. Nothing greater was accomplished by all the schemes of drainage until the nineteenth century, and Macaulay's account may not have been over-coloured when he speaks of this part of England as being in the reign of William and Mary "a vast and desolate fen, saturated with the moisture of thirteen counties, and overhung during the greater part of the year by a low, grey mist, high above which rose, visible many miles, the magnificent tower of Ely." Even with the protection of the dam, only a tenth of 2,000 acres of morass could be made annually available for cultivation ; but the waters were repelled, and the Bishop's triumph infects us down the centuries. But to others the dam brought evil. First, to the riparian owners farther up the stream, who felt the effects of the arrested waters in the flooding of their lands. The estates of the Abbeys of Peterborough and Croyland and of their neighbours received damage to the extent of £300, a vast sum even to the Benedictines of the "Golden Borough." Then came the sufferings of a feebler folk. The dam had blocked the direct channel between Peterborough and the sea, so that neither ship nor boat could pass. Cargoes of corn and cattle or of herring and stock-fish from the Norfolk ports must be delayed in carriage through another channel, which increased the journey by fifty miles. What with loss of wind and tide, how many a weary "leg" to windward did all this mean to the sailor-men, what saline imprecations, muttered under breath, but not to be drowned by all the waters of the Borough Fen ! For thirty years these things were going on, even if the tales are discounted by the light of legal fictions which converted a simple trespass into the "assault of an armed force by night," and dated from "time immemorial" the

custom of ten years. The records help us not at all in conjecturing why early action was not taken against De Langeton, but independently several reasons may be found. The Bishop himself had probably no idea, as he walked dryshod in his demesne, of the disasters which had been evolved from his faculty for engineering; and who, on his rare visits, could approach him with the tale, or with the suggestion that the waters should be let in again by the destruction of his work? Had he not done this thing "by his power and high-handedness"? It would be long, too, before the cause of the inconvenience would be clearly understood by the sufferers. The sailors would scarcely have frequent speech with the Peterborough monks, and the common people would slowly gather the idea of the blocked channel—"travellers' tales" maybe. The monks themselves, when they did grasp the situation, might keep resigned silence. Here was a great man, the friend and minister of kings, and even more—"Dog eats not dog"—here was the common bond of sacerdotalism.

It was not till after the Bishop's death that, in 1330, the counties bordering the Nene combined in outcry, and an inquiry was opened at Northampton. The manor of Coldham was then in the hands of the Peverels, a branch of the wide-spread family of which one ancestor was of the blood of Norman William, said tradition. Alice de Langeton, the Bishop's sister, had been married some time before 1290 to Robert Peverel, and is known to have had four sons, Edmund being the eldest and his father's heir. Other sons were Walter and Robert, who in early boyhood were already in minor orders at the time of their uncle's trial in Rome, and one of his earliest acts upon the recovery of his episcopal rights was to obtain from Rome a faculty to grant these children benefices by dispensation. Such acts of "nepotism" led to grave abuses and to vigorous reforms in later times. This youthful Robert was doubtless the Robert de Clipston who was incumbent in 1314 at Church Brampton in Northants, with his own father, Robert Peverel, or de Clipston—for the surname varied—as his patron. A pleasant family arrangement and one of which no ill result is heard.

Robert Peverel, the Bishop's brother-in-law, did not long outlive him, and Edmund Peverel figures as De Langeton's heir in the official inquisition held after his death. Robert, whether as guardian or otherwise, entered for a short time into possession of the Coldham property; but at the time of the inquiry at Northampton, Edmund and Elizabeth, his wife, appeared as joint holders to answer for their action in obstructing the Nene channel. Edmund answered truly that neither he nor his father had made or repaired the dam, which had been there for thirty years. Then the sheriffs of the counties were summoned, but they were dilatory in obeying, the official of Lincoln especially, and further writs had to be issued. Edmund was summoned again, but did not come, having, indeed, died in the meantime. This becoming known, Elizabeth Peverel was ordered to appear, which she failed to do. Poor Elizabeth! a "new" widow left with an infant son, John, and a girl, Margaret, somewhat older. We do not find that her "contempt" was sharply visited, only the matter proceeded without her. The wrongs of the monasteries and of the riparian owners were detailed. What sea-lawyer represented the shipping interest we do not gather, but all parties had their say. The finding was that the dam was unlawfully made in the river-bed, and thus in soil not of the owner of Coldham, but of another, the Crown. Then the sheriffs of the injured counties received the royal mandate to destroy the fateful dam, and Coldham was left to its original wateriness. It can have been little more than a morass and a fishery after this. Wildfowl there would be, and the glory of evening when the sun sank large and tremulous into the fen, and made the silent pools like tinted windows in the twilight—things, to use the stern language of the assessors, "qui nihil valent."

Such is the story of the Bishop's dam.



The Silchester Excavations.

MANY of the objects found in the course of last year's work at Silchester were on view at the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, early in June.

The excavations of 1905 were confined to *Insulae V.* and *VI.*, an unexpected depth of soil having been found overlying the buildings in the latter. Quite a number of interesting buildings were brought to light. In *Insula V.* the north-west corner was filled by a structure of regular plan, but uncertain use, the main feature of which was a large pillared hall or workshop, with storerooms at the end and a corridor or portico in front. South of, but detached from it, was another structure of similar plan. The chambers behind this, however, were apparently living-rooms, and give a more domestic character to the building.

From this second building there extends southwards a somewhat puzzling series of chambers of several dates as far as a large edifice that occupied the south-west corner of the *insula*. The main features of this were a great hall (?) with long and short corridors facing the streets, and a narrower corridor at the further end, beyond which, again, was a square building subdivided into small rooms. The nature and object of this extensive group of buildings is under investigation.

The rest of the *insula* was devoid of buildings, except along the northern margin, where there were laid open the foundations of a nice little house of the corridor type, with some interesting remains of mosaic pavements.

The western margin of *Insula VI.* is mostly occupied by the major part of an L-shaped building at the north-west corner which was examined in 1892. This has now been fully traced, and proved to consist of, apparently, a series of shops covered by a corridor or colonnade along the street fronts. At the south end there has been subsequently built on a second row of chambers, apparently as a series of drying rooms, though the hypocausts have been destroyed.

The northern wing of the block is noteworthy for having been built over an extensive layer of jaw-bones of oxen. A number

of these jaw-bones were among the exhibits at Burlington House.

The remainder of the north side of the *insula* is almost entirely filled with the foundations of a large mansion of somewhat interesting character. It originally consisted of a fair-sized corridor house, standing north and south, with mosaic floors. To the east of this was afterwards added a courtyard enclosed by corridors, beyond which was built a second house on a somewhat larger scale with fine mosaic pavements, etc. A room at the south-east angle is remarkable for the remains of a wooden steeping tank sunk in the floor. In a corridor of one of the main chambers a human skeleton was found, laid in a rudely-made grave against the wall. This also was shown at Burlington House.

To the east of the house just described was a narrow courtyard with a wide entrance gateway on the north, and shut off from the street on the east by a strong wall.

On the southern margin of the *insula* are the remains of another interesting house, L-shaped in plan, and forming another example of the transition from the corridor to the courtyard type. Most of its floors were of plain or patterned mosaic. Under part of this house is a wood-lined well, associated with which were a number of pieces of sawn and cut timber of various sizes and uncertain use. Another large wood-lined well was found west of the building, and a third to the north-east. From this last there led southward, apparently to carry off the overflow of the well, a carefully constructed wooden conduit made of unusually fine oaken boards; two of them were no less than 25 feet long and 3 inches thick.

Owing to the nearness of the water to the surface, comparatively few pits and wells were met with, but the contents of these have nevertheless yielded further interesting remains of plants, etc., to the patient investigations of Mr. A. H. Lyell, Mr. Clement Reid, and Professor Newton.

Several important architectural remains were brought to light, including some pieces of turned pillars, an unfinished "winged" altar, and a figure of a dormant lion, probably from the gable of some building.

These fragments were among the relics shown, and the Exhibition also included a

variety of other objects of interest. We noticed two sections of a lead pipe found in the Baths, formed and jointed in precisely the same way that mediæval lead pipes were centuries later. Among several mortars in a more or less fragmentary condition was one quite perfect, studded inside with grains of quartz for pounding meat in. Besides parts of the skull and other bones of a child about fourteen years of age, which were found in a well in *Insula VI.*, there were found bones of the horse, dog, red-deer, ox, roebuck, sheep, goat, goose, pheasant, widgeon (? found for the first time), crane, and rook. There were also a good many small iron objects, some good glass, a quantity of figured "Samian" ware, some specimens of New Forest, Caistor, and other ware made in England, many coins, many handles of amphoræ bearing the makers' stamps, and fragments from the hearth of a silver refinery.

The committee propose during the current year to continue, and, if possible, complete the investigation of the grass field, other parts of which have already been dealt with in 1902 and 1904. There will then remain only one other season's work to finish the examination of the whole of the 100 acres within the town wall. As operations in the grass field have to be carried out under special conditions, the committee would be grateful for subscriptions and donations towards them.

Cheques may be sent to the honorary treasurer of the Excavation Fund, F. G. Hilton Price, Esq. (17, Collingham Gardens, S. Kensington), or to the honorary secretary, W. H. St. John Hope, Esq. (Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.).



Ancient Muniment Chest, Dersingham, Norfolk.

BY GEORGE BAILEY.

 HIS chest is in the beautiful old church of St. Nicholas, Dersingham. Many such chests still remain in churches, and many others which ought to be found in them are gone elsewhere. This one differs from most, if

not all of them, in having its front decorated by large carvings of the Evangelistic symbols, which are cut in a remarkably attractive and quaint fashion, very pleasant to the eye. They have not much relief, but the flatness is commendable in such a position, and in spite of it they present an appearance of great boldness; and the light so plays upon them that, together with the queer drawing, a richness is lent to them which is quite charming in its effect. There is an old-world, childish look about them that is highly pleasing and suggestive. The colour of the wood is of the creamy tint of old lace. It has never been stained, and from the rubbed appearance of the diaper-work it is easy to surmise that it has been subjected to periodical scrubbings with soap and sand. The four large panels are roughly cut, but the two narrow flanking spaces and the bands of birds and flowers—especially the former—with their delicate window-tracery and foliation, are very nicely carved. Although in our sketch the backs of all four panels are diapered—as we think was originally the case—they are not so on the chest. Only two have now the diaper, SS. John and Mark, so that it appears likely that the other two were recut when the chest underwent a careful restoration. There is only part of the original lid, and all, or most, of the ends and back have been repaired; but this appears to have been done a long time ago, and the old work has been carefully copied, so that now it looks all of the same date. There was formerly an inscription all round the top of the chest, but now only what appears on our sketch remains, the other part of the lid having been lost. This is unfortunate, because it prevents us from making out what it was. It will be observed that many of the letters are reversed. This adds to the difficulty, because sometimes this was intended to supply another letter, but it is not easy to think that can have been intended here. There are three large initials

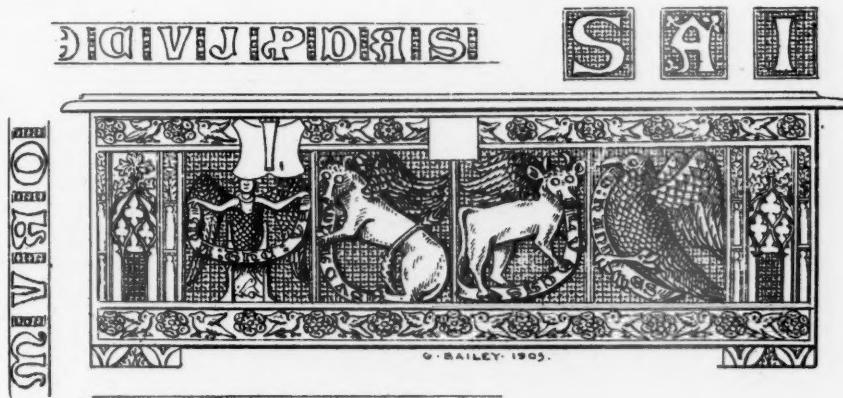
arranged as here  in the centre of the lid. No doubt there were five letters at first, but two are gone with the broken-off part of the lid. The inscription was a record of those who gave the chest to the church, and we shall be glad if any reader of

the *Antiquary* can supply a clue to the reading, which might be arrived at from similar dedicatory legends on other church chests.

The chest is 6 feet 7 inches wide by 2 feet 4 inches deep. Only one of the original lock-shields now remains, but there are besides two or three modern padlocks, not shown in our sketch. The date is, to all

John called to his dying leader for vengeance :

Now give me leave, give me leave, master, he said,
For Christ's love give leave to me
To set a fire within this hall
And to burn up all Church Lee.
That I rede not, said Robin Hood then,
Little John, for it may not be;
If I should do any widow hurt, at my latter end,
God, he said, would blame me.



appearance, fourteenth century. This beautiful church is upon the King's Norfolk estate ; it is full of interest, and is finely preserved.



Robin Hood.

BY SIR EDWARD BRABROOK, C.B., F.S.A.

(Concluded from p. 212.)

HESE specimens will be sufficient of the legends relating to his life. "The merry pranks he played would ask an age to tell," says Drayton. The manner of his death was as follows : He went to Kirklees Priory (now the seat of Sir George Armitage) to be bled. His aunt was prioress there, and she, or, according to other versions, one of the friars, allowed him to bleed to death. Little

But take me upon thy back, Little John,
And bear me to yonder street,
And there make me a full fair grave
Of gravel and of grit,
And set my bright sword at my head,
Mine arrows at my feet.

We may here introduce words from another ballad :

Christ have mercy on his soul
That died on the rood !
For he was a good outlaw,
And did poor men much good.

As he did good to the poor by means of robbing the rich, one cannot help being reminded by this of the epitaph on the famous Pallavicin, who "robbed the Pope to pay the Queen" :

He was a thief—a thief ! Thou liest—
For why—he robbed but Antichrist.

Bernard Barton wrote a fine poem on the death of Robin Hood :

His pulse was faint, his eye was dim,
And pale his brow of pride ;
He heeded not the monkish hymn
They chaunted by his side.

He knew his parting hour was come,
And fancy wandered now
To freedom's rude and lawless home
Beneath the forest bough.
A faithful follower, standing by,
Asked where he would be laid;
Then round the chieftain's languid eye
A lingering lustre played.
"Now raise me on my dying bed,
Bring here my trusty bow,
And, ere I join the silent dead,
My arm that spot shall show."
They raised him on his couch, and set
The casement open wide;
Once more, with vain and fond regret,
Fair Nature's face he eyed.
With kindling glance and throbbing breast
One parting look he cast,
Sped on its way the feathered dart,
Sunk back and breathed his last.
And where it fell, they dug his grave
Beneath the greenwood tree—
Meet resting-place for one so brave,
So lawless, frank, and free.

It is said that the Prioress of Kirklees set up this epitaph on his tomb :

Robert, Earl of Huntington,
Lies under this little stone.
No archer was like him so good,
His wildness named him Robin Hood.
Full thirteen years and something more
These northern parts he vexed sore:
Such outlaws as he and his men
May England never know again!

It is said that Little John's surname was Nailor, and that he derived his common name from ironical allusion to his great size, just as the miller's son was called Much for the reason that he was the smallest of the company. It is also stated that, after the death of Robin Hood, he fled into Ireland, remained for a few days in Dublin, and thence escaped into Scotland, and died at Moravie or Moray. On the other hand, some records in the Southwell family are quoted to show that he was hanged for robbery at Arbor Hill, Dublin.

Like the seven cities which contended for the birth of Homer, whom living they neglected, all our three kingdoms contend for the burial-place of Little John, whom living they outlawed. In England his grave, 13 feet 4 inches long, is shown at Hathersage, in Derbyshire, and bones of an uncommon size (a thigh 29½ inches) were found in it, supposed to be his (Codswell in *Archæologia*, x. 467). In Scotland, at the Kirk of Pelte

in Moray, Boecius says he saw the remains of Little John, whose height was 14 feet, "by which appears how strong and square people grew in our region afore they were effeminate with lust and intemperance of mouth." The English legend is the pleasantest, for in that country village they show not merely his grave, but also the rural cottage in which he breathed his last, quietly in his bed.

Placidaque ibi demum morte quievit.

It is not surprising that, according to Robinson's glossary, it should be proverbial in Yorkshire that

Many talk of Robin Hood that never shot in his bow,
And many talk of Little John that never did him know.

Robin Hood's band is said to have numbered a hundred men as a sort of standing army, besides other occasional adherents. George a-Green was the pinder or pound-keeper of the town of Wakefield. His reputation lingers in the Gray's Inn Road, London, where an old inn, with a side entrance of good timber work, bears the sign of the Pinder of Wakefield. When it stood in the fields, and Bagnigge Wells House was the nearest inhabited dwelling, the latter was described as "Bagnigge House, near the Pinder of Wakefield."

Allan-a-Dale was the minstrel of the band :

His harp, his story, and his lay
Oft aid the idle hours away;
When unemployed, each fiery mate
Is ripe for mutinous debate.

In despair at losing his true love, whom her parents had promised to an old knight, he swore to be Robin Hood's true servant if he should recover her. Robin accordingly goes to the church, where a bishop is ready to solemnize a marriage between the old knight and the young maid, and offers his services to the bishop as a musician. When the bride appears, Robin blows his horn, and his followers gather around him, foremost among them being Allan-a-Dale. Robin declares this is her true love, and that she shall be married to him. The bishop demurring, Robin pulls off the bishop's coat and puts it on Little John, who performs the

ceremony, and the bride, looking like a queen, retires to the merry greenwood.

It is evident from this that Robin Hood at that time had not the aid of his "fat friar," Friar Tuck—so Shakespeare and the ballads call him; but we are met with the difficulty that all this happened before the "coming of the friars," and that, as Mr. Thoms says, he must have been a monk, probably of Fountains Abbey. Drayton speaks of

Tuck, the merry friar, who many a sermon made

In praise of Robin Hood, his outlaws, and their trade.

He is sometimes called the "curtail friar," in allusion, as it is supposed, to his wearing his canonicals cut short for greater freedom of motion. The story of his first meeting with Robin Hood, as told in the ballad, is that, the renown of the friar in the use of the crossbow having been vaunted before Robin, he swore a solemn oath that he would neither eat nor drink till he had seen the friar. They meet, and after more trials of strength, Robin Hood begs as a boon that he may be allowed to blow three blasts of his horn, and half a hundred of his yeomen appear. Tuck asks leave to whistle; he does so, and fifty good ban-dogs come rushing all of a row. "Every dog to a man," says the curtail friar, "and I myself to Robin Hood." Robin gives in, and the friar joins his band. The interview between Friar Tuck and the disguised Cœur de Lion is one of the most amusing chapters in *Ivanhoe*.

Another companion of Robin Hood was Maid Marian. The first mention of her in that capacity in literature appears to be in Alexander Barclay's *Ship of Fools*, 1500. She is identified by tradition with Matilda, daughter of Robert, second Earl Fitzwalter, and is supposed to have been poisoned by King John at Dunmow. A monument at Dunmow Church is erected over her remains. In the window at Batley, in Staffordshire, she is represented with a lily in her hand. Drayton thus commemoates her :

He from the husband's bid no married woman wan,
But to his mistress dear, his loved Marian,
Was ever constant known, which whereso'er she came
Was sovereign of the woods, chief lady of the game.

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Her clothes tucked to the knee, and dainty braided hair,
With bow and arrow armed, she wandered here and there
Amongst the forests wild; Diana never knew Such pleasures, nor such harts, as Mariana slew.

It is probable that Friar Tuck and Maid Marian were introduced into the story for the purpose of the morris-dances, and that they had no real existence, whether Robin Hood had or not. The ballads in which they occur appear to be comparatively late ones.

Whatever may be the truth in that respect, if we look to the renown of Robin Hood as due to his championing the rights of the people against the iniquitous forest laws, we may be prepared to sympathize with the writers of the ballad in their view that a Maid Marian was a necessary element in the story—in other words, that no man ever did anything which entitled him to the kindly remembrance of his fellows if he had not the stimulus and encouragement which the sweet influence of woman alone can impart. If the myth of Maid Marian is an allegory, and if this is its meaning, it is not a bad one.

What were these forest laws? Blackstone tells us that the practice of keeping up animals in a wild state for mere diversion is forbidden to the subject, but has been at all times permissible as a matter of prerogative to the Sovereign. Even among the Saxons there were woods and desert tracts, called the forests, which were held to belong to the Crown, and were filled with great plenty of game, which our royal sportsmen reserved for their own diversion. The freeholder might then sport with full liberty upon his own demesnes, but he was obliged to abstain from doing so in the King's forests upon pain of a heavy fine. The Norman Kings were over-eager in the enjoyment of this branch of their prerogative. Not only did they extend the limits of the ancient forests by encroachments on the lands of their subjects, and lay out new ones without regard to their rights, but they established the system of forest law. Under this the most horrid tyrannies and oppressions were exercised. The *Saxon Chronicle* says of William the Conqueror that he loved the great game as if he had been their

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father. The penalty for killing a stag or boar was loss of eyes. It was more heavily punishable to kill a deer than to kill a man. Accordingly, the tyranny of the law became insupportable, and, when the various feudal rigours and other exactions introduced by the Norman family had worn out the patience of our ancestors, they extorted from King John at Runnymede the Great Charter, which has been in effect the foundation of all our liberties to this day. In that Great Charter (1215), and in the *Charta de Foresta* of Henry III. (1225) confirming it, the rigours of those laws were relaxed.

For his offences against these laws Robin Hood incurred the penalties of outlawry. These were heavy. It was as legal and meritorious to hunt down and despatch an outlaw as to kill a wolf; a reward was offered for his head, or for that of anyone who received or consorted with him. M. Thierry says: "These men took as much pride in the title of outlaw as, in a free nation, is attached to that of citizen. The contemporary historians branded them with the names of rebel, traitor, robber, bandit; but such names have, in every country under foreign subjection, been borne by the few brave men who disdained the chains the rest of their countrymen submitted to wear, and retired to the mountains and to the deserts. Those who did not dare to follow their example would yet accompany them with sympathy; and while the new French-written laws were proscribing the forester as an outlaw, a wolf, and pursuing him with hue and cry, the hearts of his countrymen sang his praises, and their ballads celebrated the conquests his prowess or his astuteness gained over his enemies."

The earliest date suggested for the real existence of Robin Hood is that he was born about 1160, the sixth year of the reign of Henry II., and flourished in the reign of Richard I. (1189-1199). Lord Coke, in his *Third Institute*, 197, says: "This Robin Hood lived in the reign of King Richard the First." Martin Parker, in his *True Tale of Robin Hood*, 1632, says he died December 4, 1198. Mr. Ritson, following Thoresby in his *Ducatus Leodensis*, 1715, accepts the tradition of his death at the hands of his kinswoman, the Abbess of Kirksley, and fixes

the date of it as November 18, 1247, when Robin Hood, if born in 1160, would have attained the great age of eighty-seven. One may wonder, says Fuller, in his quaint way, how he escaped the hands of justice, dying in his bed; but it was because he was rather a merry than a mischievous thief, complimenting passengers out of their purses, never murdering any but deer, and feasting the vicinage with his venison.

Mr. Gutch fixes the date of his birth at about 1225, the ninth year of Henry III., a date which would correspond with the theory that he was defeated with Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, at the Battle of Evesham in 1265.

Wyntoun gives 1283 (*temp. Edward I.*) as the date at which he flourished.

Mr. Joseph Hunter gave a later date than any of these, and fixed the date of Robin Hood's birth at from 1285 to 1295, suggesting that the cause of his outlawry was that he was among the insurgents called Contrariantes in 1322, *temp. Edward II.* These were the followers of the Earl of Lancaster, who in that year was defeated and beheaded. A little before Christmas in the year 1323, King Edward made a progress through Lancashire, and spent some weeks near Nottingham. From the 24th day of March to the 22nd November following a certain Robin Hood was maintained in the King's household as a groom of the chamber. At the last date he was discharged as unable to work. Mr. Hunter suggests that this may have been our hero.

On the whole, we incline to the earlier dates, unless, indeed, the suggestion we have made that there might well have been more than one Robin Hood be accepted. The difference, however, between the earliest and the latest of these suggested dates is little more than a century, and they are all anterior to the Black Death of 1349, which was the cause of so much social change in this country. An authority almost contemporary described Robin Hood as "prædonum princeps et prædo mitissimus." It is difficult to believe that there was no foundation for this appreciation of a mixed character, and for the immortality which it has secured for him. I suppose that the time will never come when Robin Hood ballads shall cease

to be sung, and when some hearts will not
“kindle, as a fire new stirred, at sound of
Robin’s name.”

Priests parted with their gold, to enrich his store ;
But never would he rob or wrong the poor.

In the words of Sir Walter Scott’s Black Knight, “ He that does good, having the unlimited power to do evil, deserves praise not only for the good which he performs, but for the evil which he forbears.” The outlaw of those days was accepted as the vindicator and the enforcer of rights which, under a mere cover of law, had been violated, and of claims which the law, if it had had the will, had not the power to enforce. As Mr. Pike remarks, in his excellent *History of Crime*, we, who have long enjoyed the blessings of a settled Government, can only with the greatest difficulty throw ourselves in imagination back into a period when settled government was as little expected by Englishmen as Shakespeare expected, when his Puck bragged of putting a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes, that a girdle would one day convey a message round the earth in forty seconds. We enjoy the protection of the law, which has a strong arm to render to each his due, and the administration of which is beyond all suspicion of being swayed by any partiality or corrupted by any sinister influence. We place the majesty of the law even higher than that of the Crown, and look upon the law-breaker as an enemy to society. It was not so then.

Another charm of the story of Robin Hood is in its open-air life.

In summer when the shawes be sheyne,
And leaves be large and longe,
It is full mery in fayre foreste
To here the foulys songe ;
To see the dere draw to the dale,
And leave the hilles hye,
And shadow them in the leaves grene
Under the grenewood tree.

In these forest recesses, the last resort of freedom and the last refuge from tyranny, the foresters whom Robin Hood collected around him were men trained from their youth in the use of that truly English weapon the bow, and formed into a disciplined band. We may apply to him the description of Chaucer’s yeoman :

Clad in cote and hood of green.
A shefe of peacock arroes bright and keen
Under his belt he bare full thriftily.
Wel could he dress his tackle yeomanly.
His arwes drouped not with fetheres low,
And in his hand he bare a mighty bow.
A not hed hadde he, with a browne visage,
Of wood-craft could he wel alle the usage.
Upon his arme he bare a gay bracere,
And by his side a sword and a bucklere,
And on that other side a gaine daggere,
Harneised wel, and sharpe as point of spere.
A cristofor on his brest of silver shene.
An horne he bare, the baudrik was of grene.
A forster was he sothely, as I gesse.

Upon the whole, therefore, we think we discern, in an obscure portion of our history, and in a character of wild and dubious repute, one episode in the long struggle for liberty in which Englishmen have been engaged for so many centuries.

Freedom’s battle, once begun,
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, is ever won.

The guerilla warfare of Robin Hood, and such as he, ended in the defeat of the forest laws, and secured the enforcement of one branch of the great charter of our liberties. May the time never again come when such means as his are again employed :

Non tali auxilio, nec defensoribus istis,
Tempus eget.

But may the time never come when England shall fail to have at call hearts as brave, as true, and as free as famous Robin Hood !



The Antiquary's Note-Book.

THE GLASTONBURY LAKE VILLAGE EXCAVATIONS.

HE season’s work (four weeks) at the Glastonbury Lake Village came to an end on June 2, and although much unfavourable weather was experienced, especially during the last fortnight, the results of the excavations have been very satisfactory, and not only have many important relics been added to the great collection, but structurally the excavations have produced items of considerable interest. The work has been continuously supervised by Mr. Arthur Bulleid, the dis-

coverer of the village, and Mr. H. St. George Gray, curator and assistant secretary to the Somersetshire Archaeological Society at Taunton Castle. One or both have been on the ground during the whole of the excavations, and the many details of their systematic work have kept them very busy. Eight workmen were employed this season, the services of the foreman having been retained ever since the commencement of the explorations in 1892. Nine dwellings in the north-west quarter of the village have been uncovered. One of these was of exceptional size and interest. At the base, laid out on the peat and brushwood, a circular platform of timber-work (chiefly alder) served as the foundation of the dwelling. The earlier inmates of this hut appear to have lived on this timber-work substructure, for a clay hearth was uncovered in the centre. The timber having sunk in the course of time in the swamp, a clay floor with another hearth was placed upon the timber, and later on, after this lower floor became worn out, five other floors were successively introduced, and no less than eight superimposed hearths besides the two before mentioned. The remains of the wall-posts and outlying piles were found in great quantities, mostly arranged circularly, and the threshold and doorway to the lower floors were clearly traced. In this particular excavation much time was spent in pumping out the water which ran into the diggings. Hearths were numerous and varied in some of the other dwellings, and in one mound a peculiar depression was found in a hearth, where it is believed that iron, and perhaps bronze, was "worked." Much iron slag was found, and fragments of crucibles, one having bronze adhering to the sides. On the west of the excavations a portion of the border palisading of the village was uncovered, and an interesting mass of timber-work was revealed.

Amongst the relics in bone a perfect needle was found. The bronze objects included two perfect finger-rings, portion of a fibula, a penannular ring-brooch, a needle, several rivet-heads, a bronze link of unusual form, and an elaborate harness ornament. In baked clay several objects were found, including loom-weights and sling-bullets. The flint objects included many worked flakes and

four well-shaped scrapers. The majority of the relics were formed from antlers of deer (chiefly red-deer), and amongst other things the following were found: half a dozen weaving combs, a long handle of an iron knife with rivets in position, a piece of roe-deer antler used in ornamenting pottery, a hammer formed from the burr of an antler, a much-worn tine with three circular perforations, and many other objects not easily named. Iron is rather scarce in the village, but several objects were found this year, including a large curved knife, portions of smaller knives, and a gouge. In Kimmeridge shale another complete armlet (diameter 4½ inches) was found; in lead, a small ring or whorl. Very few human remains have been found this year, but portions of a skull were recovered from the base of one of the huts. Fragments of pottery (some ornamented) have been found in great abundance, and portions of about six complete pots. Three or four querns, for grinding corn, were discovered, and several spindle-whorls; one was made from a decorated piece of pottery. A few wooden objects were found, including a ladle. The following vegetable remains were found in this year's excavations, some of which have already been examined by Mr. Clement Reid, F.R.S.: Hazel-nut, acorn, floating-moss, sedge, seeds of yellow-flag, cultivated pea, wheat, and barley.

Nearly all the "finds" of 1906 will be temporarily exhibited in Taunton Castle Museum during the summer.



At the Sign of the Owl.



THE new part of *Archæologia* is of unusual importance, for it contains Dr. Evans's treatise on the prehistoric tombs discovered by him at Knossos, Crete, illustrated by nearly 150 figures.

Mr. W. Fergusson Irvine, F.S.A., who has been engaged by the Chester Town Council to arrange and tabulate the charters and ancient documents

in the muniment-room at the Town Hall, exhibited and explained some of the historic treasures to members of the Chester Archaeological Society and Town Council on May 29. The exhibits comprised, in addition to the city charters, freemen's rolls, and documents dated as far back as the reigns of Henry II. and Richard I., an old-fashioned iron wheat measure, policeman's rattle, several instruments of torture, and a scold's bridle—a somewhat miscellaneous assortment of antiquities.

For a first edition of Gray's famous "Elegy written in a Country Churchyard," £95 was given at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's rooms on June 6. This is double what such a copy would have fetched some fifteen years ago.

The Town Clerk of the Corporation of the City of London, in his annual report on the corporation records, states that the calendaring now in progress is likely to prove of more than ordinary interest to the student of London's municipal history, covering as it does the reign of Richard II., when the Courts of Aldermen and Common Council underwent constitutional changes of a drastic order, and the city was torn by party faction, under the leadership of Nicholas Brembre and John de Northampton. The citizens were divided in their allegiance to the King, who was apt to interfere at times in municipal elections; they were still more divided as to the fishmongers and other victuallers being allowed the upper hand in civic matters. Brembre was, by trade and livery company, a grocer, and was one of the King's strongest supporters. Northampton was a draper, and supported the Duke of Lancaster and his party. Both suffered imprisonment, and were condemned to death, although only Brembre was executed.

The latest volume issued by the Oxford Historical Society consists of a further instalment of Hearne's Collections (May 9, 1719, to September 22, 1722), and abounds in good things. I quote a few characteristic passages :

" Nov. 30 (Mon., St. Andr.), 1719. Mr. Leak communicated to me the following Inscription upon the Head-Stone of Rob'

Nation's Wife, in the Church-Yard of Silton, in the County of Dorset :

Here lies a Piece of Xt^t, a Star in Dust,
A Vien of Gold, a China Dish, that must
Be us'd in Heaven, when Xt^t shall feast the Just."

" Aug. 7 (Sun.), 1720. Mr. Collins of Magd. Coll. tells me that Mr. Joseph Addison of their College (who was afterwards Secretary of State) used to please himself mightily with this Prologue to a Puppet-Shew :

A certain King said to a Beggar,
What hast' to eat? Beans, quoth the Beggar.
Beans? quoth the King. Yea, Beans, I say;
And so forthwith we straight begin the Play.
Strike up, Player."

In the following some sidelights are thrown upon University matters :

" March 31 (Fri.), 1721. This day Sennight was hang'd at Oxford (being the onely person condemn'd there this last Assizes), a young Man of about 22 Years of Age, for divers Crimes. His Father and Mother, who live somewhere about Thame, were present at the Execution, and had a Coffin to bury him, but the Scholars, having combin'd to have him dissected, took the Body away by force, abused the Father and Mother in such a degree that the Woman miscarried, and is since dead, and carried the Body off naked, upon their Shoulders, to Exeter College, where one Dr. Furneux of that College dissected it. Dr. Lasher had sent a Warrant (as he is Deputy Professor of Physick) to the Undersheriff, Mr. Trollop, but Trollop took no notice of it, and therefore the Scholars took the Body away violently."

" April 10 (Mon.), 1721. On Saturday last, in a Convocation at two Clock, the Marquess of Carnarvon was created Dr. of Law, being presented by Dr. Harrison of All Souls. . . . The Marquess hath been in Oxford little more than a Year, and perhaps may be 17 Years of Age. Yesterday he was at St. Peter's Ch. in the East, and sat with his Scarlet among the Doctors. He is just leaving the University, being to travel, and Dr. Steward is to travel with him."

" May 9 (Tu.), 1721. Yesterday, in the Afternoon, meeting with Sir Percy Freke, he told me that my L^d George Douglass and himself gave sixteen Guineas for their Degrees, that is, 8 Guineas apiece, and that Whistler,

one of the Inferior Beadles, who fetcht the Money from X^t Ch., when my L^d offer'd six Guineas, told his L^dship it must be eight. So that Honorary Degrees are sold, to the Scandal of the University."

"July 20 (Fri.), 1722. Yesterday Mr. James West, Commoner of Balliol College, was admitted by the Curators as a Stud^r in the Bodl. Library, & sworn accordingly by the Jun^r Proctor. So he told me himself, adding that he gave the Library a Book (viz. the Book about Muggleton's Life), & paid ten Shillings Fees to the Library, viz. 1s. for the Head-Librarian, 4s. 6d. for the Sublibr., & 4s. 6d. for the Janitor, w^{ch} is 4s. too much, the Fees being only 6s., viz. 1s. to the Head Librarian, 3s. 6d. to the Sublibrarian, & 1s. 6d. to the Janitor. He said the Janitor (& not either of the Librarians, for so I call them, tho' Wise, who is call'd Sub-librarian, be only an Intruder) was present when he was sworn."

The death is announced of M. Lionel Bonnemère, author of contributions to the Society of Anthropology of Paris on prehistoric subjects, and to the Society of Popular Traditions on the songs, customs, and superstitions of Anjou (his native country) and of Brittany. He had made a large collection of rustic ornaments and of amulets.

In September the Hawick Archaeological Society will celebrate its jubilee. The sole survivor of the thirty-four gentlemen who, fifty years ago, formed the Society is Dr. Murray, the editor of the great Oxford Dictionary, who is a native of the district. In connection with the celebration the Hawick Town Council have resolved to confer the freedom of the borough on Dr. Murray.

Mr. John Vinycomb, an Irish antiquary and herald, is publishing, through Messrs. Chapman and Hall, an illustrated work on *Fictitious and Symbolic Creatures in Art, with Special Reference to their Use in British Heraldry*. The list of subjects treated comprises all the principal fictitious and symbolic beings and monsters of heraldry, including those compounded of the diverse forms of

two or more creatures of the purely natural type, and also those exaggerated forms based upon the mistaken ideas of early travellers and writers. The legendary history and symbolic meaning of each are, as far as possible, investigated and defined and their characteristic shapes depicted. The suggestive illustrations, while giving the recognised forms of the creatures, leave the artist free scope to adopt his own style of art treatment, whether purely heraldic or merely decorative.

Mr. R. A. Peddie, St. Bride Foundation, E.C., has in hand a bibliography of the works of, and books relating to, Sir Thomas More. He asks librarians and collectors kindly to assist him by sending lists of the editions in their possession.

Pictorial postcards are now of such innumerable variety that novelty in their illustration is hard to achieve, but the feat seems to have been accomplished by the Cornubian Press, which sends me a packet of cards with charming illustrations of church interiors, old buildings, and archaeological remains in Cornwall. Among them I note the beautiful screen in Blisland Church, a stone coffin in Pinsla Park now used as a horse-trough, the buried church at Perranzabuloe, near Truro, ancient crosses, and the like.

Mr. Stewart Fiske, whose address is P.O. Box 54, Mobile, Alabama, U.S.A., appeals for help in compiling a bibliography, which he has in preparation, of monumental brasses in Europe, especially in this country. Full particulars of what is specially needed can be obtained from Mr. Fiske, whose intentions are highly laudable, though it seems not unlikely that he may be anticipated by Mr. Herbert Drift, the author of a "Brasses" book reviewed in last month's *Antiquary*, who promises for early publication a full bibliography of the subject.

Folklorists who are specially interested in the subject of games may like to note that in the last issue of *Folk-Lore*, published by Mr. David Nutt, Mr. W. Innes Pocock has an elaborate study of the game of "cat's cradle," illustrated by eighteen figures. The

game is played in the Far East—in Japan and Korea. Mr. Pocock classifies the game by nine distinct methods, with many minor variations and modifications.



Mr. Sidney Lee contributes to the *Library* notes and additions to the census of copies of the Shakespeare First Folio, which was published in 1902 by the Oxford Press as a supplement to its facsimile of the Chatsworth copy. In that census Mr. Lee recorded 158 copies, of which 108 had not been publicly described before; and he is now able to raise the number of known copies to 172. As a result of fuller information Mr. Lee transfers No. LIII. from the second class to that containing 43 perfect exemplars; No. CXVII. is entitled to a somewhat higher place, but not above the second division of the second class; No. XXXVII. was overvalued. Several changes of ownership have occurred since the census was compiled. With regard to the newly-discovered copies, Mr. Lee ranges them in order of value and interest as follows: Lady Wantage's copy, the Duke of Norfolk's copy, Bishop Gott's copy, the "George C. Thomas" copy (now in U.S.A.)—all in Class I.; the "Turbutt" copy (the original Bodleian copy now restored to the Library through public generosity), the "Bixby" copy (now in U.S.A.), the "Dawson-Brodie-Folger" copy, Mrs. A. B. Stewart's copy, the "Scott-Folger" copy—all in Class II.; and the copy belonging to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (why was not this copy reported to the Clarendon Press or Mr. Lee before?); Mr. W. C. Knight-Clowes's copy, the "Thorpe-Folger" copy, Mr. Waller's copy, and Mr. H. R. Davis's copy—all in Class III.

"Somewhere about 1915 America and Great Britain," Mr. Lee prophesies, "will in all likelihood each own the same number of copies." Mr. Marsden J. Perry, of Providence, Rhode Island, and Mr. H. C. Folger, junior, of New York, "are now the keenest collectors of Shakespeariana in the world. Mr. Folger is to be congratulated on having acquired in the last few years as many as eight copies of the First Folio in all—a record number for any private collector." It was Mr. Perry who paid for a copy of the first four Folios no less than £10,000; at public sales

the four Folios in their rarest states have not fetched a larger aggregate sum than £3,380. Since 1902 the Americans have bought ten copies, then in British hands; but it is consoling to British prejudices to know that thirty-two of the British copies are in public institutions whence untold gold or the almighty dollar is not likely to spirit them away.



The *Times* announces that the Governors of the John Rylands Library at Manchester are about to publish a series of facsimile reproductions of some of the more important of their unique and rarer books and prints, under the title of "The John Rylands Facsimiles." The work will be undertaken by the Photographic and Printing Crafts Department of the Manchester School of Technology, and a bibliographical introduction will be prefixed to each volume. The edition of each work will, as a rule, be limited to 250 copies, 100 of which will be reserved for distribution to the principal libraries of the world. The remainder will be for sale through Messrs. Sherratt and Hughes, 27, St. Ann Street, Manchester. It is proposed to issue the first seven works in the course of the present year.

BIBLIOTHECARY.



Antiquarian News.

[*We shall be glad to receive information from our readers for insertion under this heading.*]

SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON, AND HODGE concluded on Friday the three days' sale of the important series of Roman bronze coins and a few Greek silver coins collected by the late Mr. E. E. Mackerell, a total of £912 5s. being realized. The more important lots included a Syracuse tetradrachm, 466-412 B.C., female head to right wearing earring and ampyx, with olive-wreath, very fine, £10; another, by Eukleides, with head of Arethusa (?) to left, wearing broad diadem, £11; another, by Euanites, 415 B.C., head of Persephone to left, crowned with corn-leaves, around four dolphins, £41; a brass coin of Galba, 3 B.C. to 69 A.D., laureate and draped bust to right, said to be one of the finest specimens known, £12 (all purchased by Messrs. Spink); one of Vitellius, 15-69 A.D., laureate and draped bust to right, £38 10s.

(Sidmouth); and one of Plotina, 129 A.D., diadem bust to right, well preserved and very rare, £18 (Spink).—*Times*, May 21.

Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods sold on Wednesday fine old English silver plate from numerous sources, including the property of Mr. T. M. Fallow, F.S.A., of Coatham House, Redcar. The more important lots among the anonymous properties included the following: A pair of George I. plain octagonal casters, 6 in. high, by Ebenezer Roe, 1716, 10 oz. 4 dwt., at 240s. per oz., £162 (S. J. Phillips); an old Irish potato-ring, pierced and chased with flowers, fruit, etc., by C. Townsend and M. Cormick, Dublin, 1771, 13*1*/₂ oz., at 175s. per oz., £99 6s. 3d. (S. J. Phillips); a Charles II. oval tobacco-box, engraved with a coat of arms and the date 1702, London hall-mark, 1679, 4 oz. 6 dwt. at 260s. per oz., £55 18s. (S. J. Phillips); a George I. circular shallow bowl, engraved with coat of arms, and inside and out with shells and female masks, 9*1*/₂ in. diameter, 2*1*/₂ in. high, by Paul Lamerie, 1724, 48 oz. 13 dwt., at 10s. per oz., £260 5s. 6d. (Crichton); a Charles I. circular dish, embossed with fruit-shaped ornaments, dated 1669, 7 in. diameter, London hall-mark, 1632, by W. Maunday, 6 oz. 6 dwt., £133 17s. 6d. (S. J. Phillips); a Charles I. circular rosewater dish, the borders embossed with spiral bands, etc., 9*1*/₂ in. diameter, 2*1*/₂ in. high, by T. Maunday, 1639, 12 oz. 8 dwt., at 590s. per oz., £365 16s. (Barrell); a Charles I. beaker, engraved with foliage, 3*1*/₂ in. high, London hall-mark, 1640, 4 oz. 7 dwt., at 370s. per oz., £80 9s. 6d. (Crichton); a Queen Anne teapot, with bands of strapwork, the spout chased as a gryphon's head, by David Willaume, 1706, 24 oz. 2 dwt., at 200s. per oz., £241 (S. J. Phillips); and a Charles II. plain tankard, London hall-mark, 1679, 31 oz., at 100s. per oz., £155 (Hemming). Mr. Fallow's collection included an Elizabethan chalice, engraved with foliage and strapwork, 4*1*/₂ in. high, 4 oz. 12 dwt., at 100s. per oz., £23 (Spink); and a set of five seal-top spoons, each engraved with initials W.R.M., Hull hall-mark, by Christopher Watson, circa 1640, £155 (Crichton).—*Times*, May 25.

The collection of coins, except the living, almighty dollar, is not a popular hobby in the United States. Last week's mail, however, brought the reports of the four days' sale, at Philadelphia, of the collection formed by the late Mr. Harlan P. Smith, and described as the finest ever brought together of American gold coins. The prices realized appear to have been far beyond those previously recorded. A United States 5-dollar gold piece, dated 1822, realized the extraordinary sum of 2,165 dols.; another piece, of the same face value, but earlier in date—i.e., 1815—sold for 1,050 dols. Among the colonial coins were: "Willow-Tree" shilling, 1652, 30 dols.; Lord Baltimore sixpence, 3*1*/₂ dols.; Carolina "Elephant-Penny," 1694, 28 dols.; Rosa Americana twopence, 2*1*/₂ dols.; New York State cent, 1786, with bust of Washington, 70 dols.; another of 1787, with Indian standing with tomahawk and arms of New York, 130 dols.; and an "Excelsior" cent of the same year, 30 dols.—*Athenaeum*, May 26.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge sold on the 25th and 26th ult. the following important books and MSS.: Bellarmine, *Disputationes*, Vol. VI., bound by Clovis Eve, with arms of James VI. of Scotland, 1601, £41; Missale Cassinense, 1513, finely bound, £20 15s.; Voragine, *Legendario di Sancti Venet*, 1518, £22; Gould's *Birds of Asia*, 1850-1873, £48 10s.; Roscoe's *Novelists' Library*, 19 vols., 1831-1833, £17 5s.; Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting*, by Dallaway, Major's edition, large paper, India proofs, 1826, £22 10s.; Dresser's *Birds of Europe*, 1871-1896, £54 10s.; Blake's *Songs of Innocence*, 1789, £83; Byron's *Don Juan*, Cantos I. and II., presentation copy, 1819, £51; Sardanapalus, 1821, presentation copy, £69; Robinson Crusoe, first edition (imperfect), 1719, £60; Horæ B.V.M., MS. on vellum, Sec. XV., £96; Horn-Book, *temp. George II.*, £19; Shelley's *Queen Mab*, with title and imprint, 1813, £100; Tennyson's *The Last Tournament*, 1871, £16 10s.; Dame Julianiana Berners' *Book of Hawking, Hunting, and Fishing*, etc., 1586, £31; Drayton's *The Owle*, 1604, £29; Mrs. Jordan's Letters to William, Duke of Clarence, £335; Documents signed by Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette (5), £140; Napoleon I., Draft of a Proclamation to his Army before the Battle of Rivoli, £122; Horæ B.V.M., MS. on vellum (Paris Use), Sec. XV., £195; Sarum Primer, 1555, £34; Bulletins de la Convention Nationale, September, 1792, to January, 1795, £190; Seymour Haden's Etudes à l'Eauforte, 1866, £165; Horæ ad Usum Sarum, printed upon vellum, 1526, £115; Horæ ad Usum Bisuntensem (Besançon), MS. on vellum, Sec. XV., £110; Valerius Maximus, MS. on vellum, 1418, £122; Christine de Pisan, *Livre des Faits d'Armes et de Chevalerie*, MS., XV. Cent., £225; Guillaume de Guillevele, *Le Pelerinage de la Vie Humaine*, MS. on vellum, XV. Cent., £200; Martin Le Franc, *Champion des Dames*, MS. on paper, XV. Cent., £195; Lancelot du Lac et autres Romans de la Table Ronde, MS. on paper, XV. Cent., £500; Midsummer Night's Dreame, 1600, £280; The Merchant of Venice, 1600, £460; Sir John Oldcastle, 1600, £110; Henry V., 1608, £150; King Lear, 1608, £395; Merry Wives of Windsor, 1619, £295; A Yorkshire Tragedy, 1619, £125; The Whole Contention, 1619, £110; Pericles, 1619, £161.—*Athenæum*, June 2.

PUBLICATIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

In the first part of the new volume, XXXVI., of the *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland*, Mr. G. H. Orpen seeks to show by an elaborate argument, parts of which are not very conclusive, but which, taken as a whole, has great force, that the site of "Aenach Carman," the Fair of Carman, is to be found in the Curragh of Kildare. Among the other contents are interesting notes on "An Ogham Stone in Co. Limerick," and on "An Urn Cemetery in Co. Antrim," lately brought to light; and articles on "The Headstone of Lugna, St. Patrick's Nephew, in the Island of Inchagoill, Lough Corrib," by Dr. P. W. Joyce, and on "Faughart, Co. Louth, and its

Surroundings"—a hill of strategic importance in by-gone days—by Mr. Stanley Howard. The whole number is freely illustrated.

The *Proceedings* of the Glastonbury Antiquarian Society for the year 1904, just issued, are a little belated. Besides the usual business details, and the annual report of the year's work, including an interesting identification by Mr. Reginald Smith, of the British Museum, of two iron bars found on the Glastonbury site as "iron currency-bars, used by the Ancient Britons, in use at the time of Caesar's invasion, and called by him 'taleae ferreae' (*Bell. Gall.*, V. 12)," the volume contains Mr. W. S. Clark's presidential address on "The Village of Street," a subject very attractively presented, and several papers relating to Glastonbury. Among the latter we may name "The Streets, Highways, and Byways [*sic*, but it should be "Byways"] of Glastonbury," by the late Mr. J. G. L. Bulleid; and "The Municipal History of Glastonbury" and "The Recorders of Glastonbury," by Prebendary Grant. There are also an article on "St. Gildas," by Mr. J. Clark, and a lecture on the life of St. Dunstan, by the Rev. T. G. Crippen. The Glastonbury Society is small, but evidently finds its archaeological riches in Lake Village site and museum a stimulus to praiseworthy activity.

The new part, January to March, of the *Journal of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society* is strong, as such a journal should be, in papers on local topics. Mr. S. D. Westropp writes on "The Goldsmiths of Cork," and gives a list of their names covering three centuries. A paper by Mr. H. F. Berry on "The English Settlement in Mallow under the Jephson Family" contains much interesting matter relating to the Rebellion of 1641. Other articles are: "Some Account of the Family of O'Hurly," "Robert Fitz-Stephen"—the son of Stephen, Constable of Cardigan *temp. Henry I.* and Princess Nesta—and "The Account of the Proprietors of the Cork Institution." There are several good plates, and the *Journal* is most creditably produced.

PROCEEDINGS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—*May 10.*—Mr. F. G. Hilton Price, Director, in the chair.—Mr. O. M. Dalton read a note on the lot-casting machine in Carlovingian representations of the Crucifixion, where it is found as an adjunct to the episode of the parting of Christ's garments. It consists of an urn fixed upon a revolving horizontal bar in such a way that at each revolution one of the balls serving as lots fell out, the neck of the urn being too narrow to admit the passage of more than one at a time. Two representations of this machine, as used in the circus to determine the position of the drivers in the chariot races, have come down to us from about the fourth century, one being on a contorniate medal, the other on a marble relief from the hippodrome at Constantinople; while the mode of its operation in later times is described by Constantine Porphyrogenitus.

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The late Dr. Graeven and others had already referred to the appearance of this machine in the Utrecht Psalter, and Mr. Dalton now drew attention to two other examples of its occurrence, both upon Carlovingian ivory carvings: one in the cathedral church of Narbonne, the other in the Victoria and Albert Museum. As it is not likely that the illuminators or ivory-carvers had ever seen the machine in operation, the use of this very secular method of resorting to the verdict of chance affords a striking example of the extent to which these artists depended on antique models. Mr. Dalton also described a circular brooch in the British Museum, apparently of Frankish manufacture, and ornamented with a cross in cloisonné enamel. It appeared to be a very early example of the employment of this method of enamelling in the West. He further described a small Byzantine medallion of very fine workmanship with busts of St. Theodore and St. George, apparently of the eleventh century. It was remarkable for being enamelled upon both surfaces, and for being executed on copper, with copper cloisons instead of gold. The medallion was exhibited by Mr. C. H. Read, and is to be presented to the British Museum. Finally Mr. Dalton described a small silver dish of the sixth century A.D., exhibited by Sir William Haynes-Smith. It was ornamented with a monogram in niello within a wreath of ivy-leaves, and had on the bottom the usual official stamps or "hallmarks." It was found in Cyprus, and very closely resembles a larger silver dish from the same locality, now in the British Museum.—Mr. W. R. Lethaby read a note on the early Arabic numerals on the sculptures of the Resurrection groups on the west front of Wells Cathedral church. These had been described some years ago by Mr. J. T. Irvine, who had misread several of them, with the result that his tables contained numbers that were far too high. Mr. Lethaby showed that if the numbers were properly read by the light of late thirteenth-century and other MSS., they formed a regular sequence, which corresponded with the groups of sculpture.—The Rev. E. H. Willson exhibited a silver-parcel-gilt chalice of London make of the year 1518-1519, now belonging to the Roman Catholic chapel at Leyland, Lancs.—Mr. J. C. Carrington exhibited a curious silver-gilt secular cup of English work, *circa 1470*, in use as a chalice in a Hampshire church.

May 17.—Lord Avebury, President, in the chair.—Mr. A. Trice Martin, Honorary Secretary of the Caerwent Exploration Fund, presented the annual report of the work done at Caerwent in 1905 under the superintendence of Mr. T. Ashby, jun., of the British School at Rome.—Mr. W. D. Caroe, by permission of the Rev. T. Green, exhibited three mutilated stone figures of knights, and the pedestal of a fourth, which had lately been found embedded in a mass of rubble in a window-sill in Tilsworth Church, Beds.—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope was of opinion from the action of the figures that they had originally belonged to a group representing the martyrdom of St. Thomas of Canterbury. The fact that they were not shown as sleeping was against their having formed part of an Easter sepulchre. Their date, he thought, was about 1230.—*Athenaeum*, June 2.

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At the meeting of the ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, held on June 6, the papers read were "Notes on the Early Architectural History of the Parish Church of Worth, in Sussex," and "Notes on the Architecture of Denham Church, Bucks," both by Mr. W. P. D. Stebbing, F.G.S.

The members of the ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF IRELAND assembled at Kilkenny on May 29 and 30. Among the many objects of interest inspected were the picture gallery at Ormonde Castle, St. Mary's Church, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Francis Abbey, St. Canice's Cathedral, and the museum.—At a meeting presided over by the Right Rev. Dr. Crozier, Protestant Bishop of Ossory, the mace and sword of Kilkenny Corporation were exhibited, as were the Red and White Book of Ossory, by his lordship, who gave an interesting description of the Red Book, which dates from the fourteenth century. Mr. John Cummins contributed a paper giving a brief description of the history of the antiquities and places visited.

The ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY held an excursion in the Kelvedon district on May 26. A visit was first paid to Feering Church and the Sun Inn, where some fine old carving is to be seen. The Vicar of Feering, Rev. W. J. Packe, gave a brief history of the inn, and supplied many details relating to the church; and Mr. Percy Beaumont and the Mayor of Chelmsford, Mr. F. Chancellor, also gave some interesting information. A cordial welcome was extended to the party by Mrs. P. Reid at the old Manor House of Feeringbury. Here the particular object of interest was an ancient building now used as a stable, but believed at one time to have been a private chapel. The Rev. T. H. Curling gave a description of the building. About noon a start was made for Coggeshall, and a visit was paid to the church of St. Peter, details being given by Mr. G. F. Beaumont, F.S.A., a former honorary secretary. Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont entertained the party in hospitable fashion at The Lawn, after which Paycocke's House was visited, by permission of the Rev. Conrad and Mrs. Noel, and statements regarding the building were made by Mr. Curling, Dr. Laver, and Mr. Chancellor. A short drive brought the visitors to the chapel of St. Nicholas, Little Coggeshall, and then the journey was continued to Bradwell. Here the Rev. T. H. and Miss Curling entertained all present to tea, and after a visit to the church the party drove back to Kelvedon.

BRITISH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.—*May 23.*—Mr. Carlyon-Britton, President, in the chair.—The members passed a resolution of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. Richard A. Hoblyn, F.S.A., whose recent decease deprived the society of one of its council, and was a loss to archaeology. The paper of the evening, "Historical Notes on the First Coinage of Henry II.," was contributed by the President. With the exception of the Pipe Roll of Henry I., which had been treated by Mr. Andrew, no systematic search or notation of the early rolls of the

Exchequer had ever previously been made for the purposes of comparison with the coinage of the period; but Mr. Carlyon-Britton has now supplied a complete record of the numismatic references contained in the rolls for the twenty-one years from 1155 to 1176. They comprised nearly 400 entries, and included the names of eighty-two moneyers, with the various cities and boroughs in which they coined. These chiefly concerned returns of the fees, fines, and penalties due to the Exchequer, but some of them were of a varied and more interesting character. The author was able to identify most of the names recorded with those on existing coins, many examples of which he exhibited, and in this relation it was interesting to note the innovation of the surname, which was then gradually extending over England. For example, Alwin of London on the coins became Alwin Finch in the roll, Richard of Exeter appeared as Richard Fitz Estrange, and Pires Mer: and Pires Sal: of London were extended unto Peter Merefins and Peter de Salerna, and so on, until the records seemed to be almost a directory of the coinage. The whole tenor of the treatise, too, confirmed the contention that the moneyer whose name and place of mintage appeared on the coins was a person of considerable wealth and importance, who farmed the dies, and employed artisans—usually termed in the roll "men of the moneyer"—to do the manual and executive work. Mr. Carlyon-Britton acknowledged his indebtedness to the publications of the Pipe Roll Society, which had materially lightened the task of research.—Mr. L. A. Lawrence exhibited a half-groat of the first coinage of Edward III., when the Roman M was still in use, and a groat and half-groat of Henry VI., with obverses of the pinecone-mascle coinages, and reverses of the annulet type, and Mr. H. M. Reynolds a penny of Harthacnut of the Langport mint. Mr. L. Forrer and Mr. E. H. Waters made presentations of numismatic works to the library of the society.

The members of the EAST HERTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY made an excursion in the Ware-Thundridge district on June 7. At Ware Church the Rev. Canon Appleton described the fabric. Thence the party proceeded to the site of the alien Benedictine priory, founded before 1081 by Hugh de Grantmesnil, and finally suppressed in 1414. Granted by Henry V. to the Carthusian priory of Shene, it remained in possession of that house until the Dissolution in 1540. Mr. H. P. Pollard read a paper on the priory and its site. Chelsings and Rennesley Gardens were next visited, and after lunch the visitors proceeded to the site of Thundridge old church, of which only the Decorated tower is standing. The mutilated doorway is Norman, and a curious ornament is inserted in the tower wall. By way of the site of Thundridge Bury the party reached Youngsbury Tumuli. The first, opened in 1788, contained coins, spearheads, etc., which have been lost; the second was opened in 1889, when a large Roman urn, glass jar, and an earthen wine-bottle were discovered, which were exhibited. A Roman villa stood in the adjoining field, a tessellated pavement having been found there. Notes on the remains and on the traces of Roman

occupation were read by Mr. Squires and Mr. F. C. Pullen. The last place visited was the Tudor mansion of Standon Lordship, which was described by the Rev. Dr. Burton.

An important meeting of the SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY was held on May 25, when it was decided by a practically unanimous vote that the proposed new library and museum should not be built in the "Gun Garden" adjoining Lewes Castle, but that another site in Lewes should be sought, a proposal to remove the library to Brighton being negatived.

At a meeting of the CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY on May 14, Mr. F. N. Phillips, of Hitchin, gave a lecture on mediæval floor-tiles, and dealt with their origin and development. At the meeting on May 21, Mr. O. Johnson in the chair, Baron von Hügel, Curator of the Archaeological Museum, exhibited some of the recent additions made to the collection. Among these were a number of keys of the fourteenth century, and later spearheads and other objects brought from Japan by Dr. Guillemand; two tally-sticks from Cape Colony, and flint implements from South Africa; a collection of flint implements from the Zambezi Valley, presented by Colonel Fielden; fragments of earthenware from Kharwan, and fragments of flint and obsidian found with them and used for marking the pottery; Esquimaux lamps from ancient graves presented by Sir William Macgregor; an African beehive; winnowing instrument and bellows from East Africa; belts and pottery brought from Rhodesia by Dr. Haddon; remarkable British vessels of pottery from the Nunn collection recently sold at Royston, and found in that neighbourhood; Roman implements, etc., bought at a sale at Fordham; wooden figures and inlaid vessels from the Solomon Islands, bought at the sale of the late Sir Robert George Herbert's collection at Ickleton; and a large stone, 1 foot in height, with a broad base and sharp upper edge, used probably in prehistoric times to dress and soften skins by drawing them backwards and forwards over the edge.

Dr. Guillemand also exhibited and commented on a set of Early English roundels in his possession, and drew attention to the style of the ornament on them, probably of Elizabethan date. They were probably used as sweetmeat trays.

At the meeting on May 28, the University Registrar, Mr. J. W. Clark, lectured on the Library of St. Mark, Venice. Mr. Clark said that in the previous month he had been able to spend six happy days in Venice—he might almost say in the library. That the Library of St. Mark was founded by Petrarch was an article in the creed of every true Venetian, and Mr. Clark proceeded to investigate the evidence on which that belief existed. Petrarch, he said, returned to Italy in 1353, and after trying Milan, Padua, and other cities, he determined to settle at Venice. He resided in Venice from 1362 to 1368, but before establishing himself and his books, without which he never travelled, he made a prudent bargain with the Republic. The Grand Council, by a formal vote taken in September, 1362, undertook to provide him with a house for the term of his natural life, and the

body called the Proctors of St. Mark undertook to find the money required for a place in which his books could be deposited. Petrarch expressed his intentions in clear and definite language. He said St. Mark was to inherit the books which he then had or one day might have, on condition that they were neither sold nor alienated, but kept for ever in some place where they would be safe from fire and water. As time went on Petrarch seemed to have tired of Venice, and he took himself to Padua. He died on July 18, 1374. What became of the library? Under the arrangement of 1362 it was the property of Venice, and that Petrarch acknowledged; but when he died the relations between Padua and Venice were strained, and presently a war broke out, in the course of which the Venetians had to consider other matters more important than the fate of a library. What the fate was could easily be traced. At some period after 1379 it was sold. The attempt to find Petrarch's books had been made once already, but the failure was as conspicuous as the effort was daring. The real founder of the Library of St. Mark was Cardinal Bessarion, who just a century after the acceptance of Petrarch's offer approached the State of Venice with a similar proposal. Bessarion's gift comprised 746 volumes, of which 482 were Greek and 264 Latin. They might imagine, said the speaker, the books in Venice—a vast mass in their cases, out of which they were not taken for many a long year. Sansovino did not begin to build the library till 1536 or 1537, or about seventy years after the gift. Sansovino's building occupied the whole west side of the Piazzetta, but it was not finished during his lifetime. The work was interrupted, possibly through want of funds. Mr. Clark gave a detailed description of the building and of the fittings used in it at different periods, and, proceeding, said the books and manuscripts were removed to the Ducal Palace by order of Napoleon, and also a second removal took place to the Mint or Zecca. The lecturer referred to the adaptation of this building to library purposes, and to the requirements of readers. The work, he said, began at the Zecca in March, 1902. It was finished, and the books were moved in December, 1904. The library was opened to the public privately on December 19, 1904, and publicly with a fitting ceremonial on April 27, 1905.

On June 2 a small party of members of the VIKING CLUB proceeded to Bridgwater with the intention of investigating on the spot the actual country of King Alfred's campaign from Athelney, and of discussing the claims of the various sites given for the field of the decisive victory over the Danes under Guthrum at Ethandune. The party, conducted by the Hon. Editor of the club, Mr. A. T. Major, was met at Bridgwater by the Rev. Chas. W. Whistler, who has made a special study of the problems connected with the campaign, and on the Saturday proceeded under his guidance, by North Petherton and Lyng, to the Isle of Athelney and Borough Bridge, Alfred's sen fortress. Thence they went by Sedgmoor to the commanding position of Edington Hill on the Poldens, whence the members discussed the probabilities of that site as the battlefield of Ethandune. At the same time an alternative position on the opposite

ridge of the Hamdon Hills, near Montacute, was indicated by one of the party, Mr. W. L. Radford, who had already read a paper suggesting the same site before the Somerset Archaeological Society in 1905. The general opinion of the party was in favour of the Edington site as most probable from a strategic point of view, though it was agreed that Mr. Radford's theory had its own claims to recognition. It was strongly felt, however, that in any case the site of the final battle of the campaign must be looked for in the Athelney district, and that the tentative identification of sites near Chippenham by Camden, which have been since followed without due care or investigation, must be regarded as finally exploded. On Monday the same party visited the ancient stone walled fort near Combwich on the Parrett, which, with its ancient battlefield burials, and strong local traditions, was identified by the late Bishop Clifford as the actual landing-place of Hubba during that campaign. They then went on by Stoke Courcy to Danesborough Camp on the Quantocks, where the Rev. W. Cresswell, the well-known authority on West Somerset, met them. The many fine examples of ecclesiastical architecture of the district were fully investigated and appreciated, Mr. Radford's notes being most valuable.



The spring excursion of the BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY took place on May 29. The members gathered at Chepstow, whence they journeyed to St. Briavels and Tintern. St. Briavels, in the Great Survey of 1087, appears under the name of Ledenei, and was probably included in the grant of lands at Lydney by the Conqueror to William Fitz Osbern. The name of St. Briavels seems to have been appropriated from the hamlet of St. Briavel-Stowe, lying about a mile to the north of the road from Bigswear to the iron-mines of Clearwell. Milo Fitz Walter, the builder of the castle, was Sheriff of Gloucester-hire in 1131, and hereditary Constable of England. In the civil war that ensued on the death of Henry I. Milo espoused the cause of Matilda, and she created him Earl of Hereford. He was killed by accident in 1143, whilst hunting in the Forest of Dean, and Flaxley Abbey was founded by his son Roger to commemorate his fate. Canon Bazeley acted as guide at the castle, and the Rev. J. C. May at the church, which has suffered sadly from injudicious restoration. There is a plain Norman font. The altar frontal is of pre-Reformation date, but retains all its original beauty. The staircase leading to the rood-loft has been allowed to remain in the south aisle. After luncheon the party visited the ancient iron-workings at Sling, near Clearwell, where Mr. W. H. Fryer and Mr. Llewellyn spoke, and then went on to Tintern Abbey.



On June 12 the DORSET ANTIQUARIAN FIELD CLUB made an excursion in splendid weather to Wool and East Lulworth Castle. At Wool the chief point of interest was Wool manor house, once the seat of the younger branch of the Turbervilles, a family made famous by Thomas Hardy, in whose *Tess* the house figures prominently. From Wool the party drove to Bindon Abbey, where a paper prepared by Mr.

Henry Duke was read, and the Rev. F. W. Weaver said a few words about Cistercian monasteries in general, of which order Bindon Abbey was an important foundation. At Lulworth Mr. Duke gave a concise history of the castle, and many objects of interest—including the priceless Louterell Psalter—were shown by Mr. Sargeant, the sub-agent of the Lulworth estates.



The HALIFAX ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY made an excursion on June 9 to Hipperholme. Many places were visited, and at each a historical paper was read. At Shibden Grange, formerly named Godley (the good field or meadow), by the kindness of Mr. Alderson, the visitors were shown into the garden, where the paper was read. The house and grounds are so surrounded by trees that from the road no idea of the beauty of the place can be conceived. At one time Oliver Heywood lived here, an interesting reference to which appears in *The History of Northowram* (p. 68). Leaving here the visitors proceeded by train to Lane Ends, Hipperholme, once the residence of Isaac Broadley. Reference was made to Matthew Broadley, who left £40 to found a "Free School" at Hipperholme, and for the maintenance of it £500. The school is now known as Hipperholme Grammar School, and here Mr. Lister gave a most interesting account of how Matthew Broadley lent money to Charles I., and having the foresight to secure responsible sureties, the sum of £540, already mentioned, was obtained from him some twenty years after. Previous to reaching the Grammar School, Langley House, the residence of Mrs. Sugden, was visited. After hearing the history of the place, and much about the former owners, a view of the interior was allowed. On the headstone of the doorway are the initials of the builder and his wife and the date (16 E. L. M. 92). The parlour is wainscoted in oak, the panels being unusually large. From this room the company passed into the main room or hall, on three sides of which there is a gallery communicating with the bedrooms. The staircase leading to this is particularly interesting, having a very fine pair of dog-gates.



Other meetings and excursions which we have not space to chronicle in detail have been the annual congress of the DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY on May 25 and 26; the excursion of the HAMPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY to the Seismological Observatory at Shide, Isle of Wight, on May 16; the annual meeting of the RUTLAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY on May 25, when a scheme was considered for printing and publishing the parish registers of the little county; the excursion of the BRADFORD HISTORICAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY to Beverley on June 13; the annual meeting of the BERKS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY on May 29; the monthly meeting of the NEWCASTLE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES on May 30, when Mr. Dendy described recent discoveries at the castle; the excursion of the DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY on May 31; and the spring meeting of the ROYAL INSTITUTION OF CORNWALL on May 22.

Reviews and Notices of New Books.

[*Publishers are requested to be so good as always to mark clearly the prices of books sent for review, as these notices are intended to be a practical aid to book-buying readers.*]

ABHRÁIN DIADHA CHÚIGE CONNACHT ; OR, THE RELIGIOUS SONGS OF CONNACHT. By Douglas Hyde. London : T. Fisher Unwin; Dublin, M. H. Gill and Son, Ltd., 1906. Two vols., 8vo., pp. xxi, 404 + xi, 420. Price 10s. net.

In his explanatory subtitle, Dr. Hyde shows that these two volumes contain a greater variety of matter than one would infer from the title itself. For this is really "a collection of poems, stories, prayers, satires, ranns [verses], charms, etc., gathered by him among the Gaelic-speaking peasantry of Connnaught during the last twenty years." Dr. Hyde has already given us *The Love Songs of Connacht*, and if, of the two volumes under review, he had limited one to the religious songs of that province, and another to its folklore, he would have produced an effective tril. gy. However, that is a minor affair. In rescuing this floating material, of whatever description, he has done a good work, and has earned the gratitude of all to whom such things are precious; for the greater part of it has never been printed before. Turning to the main feature of the collection, the religious songs, one is inevitably led to compare them with the *Carmina Gadelica*, garnered by Mr. Alexander Carmichael in the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The general resemblance between the prayers and religious songs in the two collections is very apparent, and in some cases there is practical identity. That they are derived from a common source is clear, and in the Irish, as in the Scottish collection, there appears the blended paganism and Christianity of the Middle Ages, and of times more remote. For example, the nightly prayer said when the fire on the hearth is "saved" (or "gathered," as the Scotch term goes) is addressed to the fire-goddess Brigit, as well as to Christ and the Virgin. Of this prayer several variants are given. The devout nature of the Irish peasant is testified to by the fact that there are prayers in daily use adapted to almost every possible contingency. There is even a special form of prayer for use after smoking tobacco, as a "grace after meat." Some of the prayers are highly spiritual in tone and Christian in doctrine, while others are mere charms. Among these are charms against toothache, conceived of as a grub or maggot. Dr. Hyde points out that this was also the Anglo-Saxon idea, and Mr. Abercromby shows it is a Finnish idea as well. An amusing mock charm comes from Connemara :

"A charm which Seumas sent to Diarmuid,
A charm with requesting, without asking,
The pain that is in your front-tooth,
To be in the furthest-back tooth in your gum!"

A feature that adds much to the interest and value of the book is that it is printed throughout in the two languages, Gaelic and English, on alternate pages.

In several instances Dr. Hyde has given English renderings of the Gaelic rhyme assonance, which rarely falls on the final word of a line; and the difficult task of illustrating the metres known as the *Rannaidheacht Mhòr* and the *Rannaidheacht Bheag* has been successfully achieved. If, on such occasions, the English version is not so poetical as the Gaelic original, that is excusable, since the main object in view is to mark the assonance. It cannot be said, however, that the simple lines with rhymed finals are remarkable for their melody, and such a couplet as—

" He who was slaughtered to redeem us
Spake that night to Nicodemus "

suggests that the accomplished translator is something lacking in the sense of humour. But, notwithstanding a few trifling defects of that sort, the book is well deserving of the hearty welcome which it will receive from all students of Gaelic and of traditional lore.

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SOUTHAMPTON COURT LEET RECORDS, Vol. I., Part II. Transcribed and edited by F. J. C. Hearnshaw, M.A., and D. M. Hearnshaw. Southampton : H. M. Gilbert and Son, 1905. Demy 8vo., pp. 165-372.

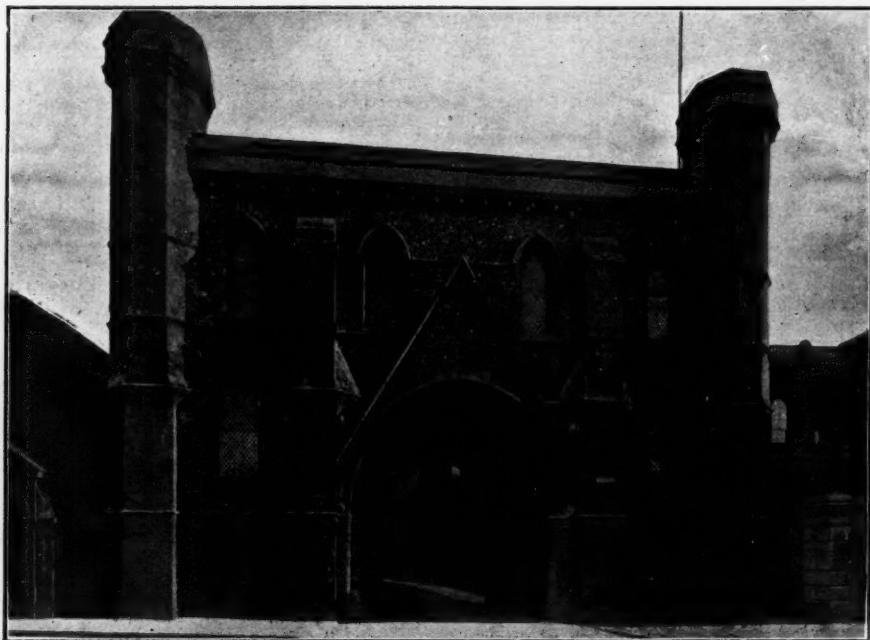
This volume is published by the Southampton Record Society, and covers the period from 1578 to 1602. Out of the twenty-five books of record written between those years only thirteen are extant, and the contents of these are here transcribed and abstracted by Professor Hearnshaw and his daughter. They throw much light upon the state of municipal life and government in Southampton during the latter part of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and do not, indeed, present a very attractive picture of the state of the town. Southampton at that time can hardly have been in a very prosperous condition. The numerous references to the state of decay of the town walls and towers, to the filthy condition of the streets and passages, and to dilapidations in fences and buildings, all point to a lack of prosperity and energy. Another feature which stands out prominently is the short-sighted determination to "protect" the industry and commerce of the town by forbidding export of materials, jealously confining the right to trade to burgesses, preventing members of one trade from trespassing on that of others, and the like futilities. These measures, with the constantly recurring attempts to fix prices by municipal edict, were, of course, characteristic of the town life of the period generally, and were by no means confined to Southampton. But in these records they seem to stand out in unusual prominence.

Many minor details of town life in the days of Queen Bess find illustration in these pages. Guests of innholders were not to be allowed to walk the streets after 8 p.m. in the winter and 10 p.m. in the summer (1579 and 1581). Brewers were several times fined for using iron-bound carts—"a grate spoylinge and wastinge of the pavement of this towne." Idle persons, duly named, were to be expelled (1579). Country bakers coming into the market sold "14, 15 and 16 for the doz. wch we think not sufferable." The danger of fire from thatched roofs is referred to, and thatches are ordered to be removed "on pain of £3/6/8"—a

heavy fine (1590). There are fines inflicted for encroachment by building a stall too far into the street, for making a ditch in the highway, for polluting the water at the wash-house, for unlawful games, for failure to carry away refuse, and for very many other offences. But enough has been said to show that these pages abound in interest. From these records one can frame not only a fairly accurate picture of the state of the town, but one can realize the endless difficulties and hindrances which attended all the well-intentioned efforts of the Court to bring about a better state of things.

relates the story of its downfall—the martyrdom of the last Abbot, gibbeted, after a mock trial, before the gateway of his own Abbey, and the desecration and destruction of the buildings. A list of the Abbots, a calendar of the Abbey, a few notes and references, and a good index help to realize the author's desire that his book may serve "as a guide to the 'Noble and Royal Monastery of Reading,'" and not only as a concise guide to its history, but also to the ruins which yearly draw many visitors.

The memories of this spot are many and splendid. At least ten Kings of England, including six of our royal



READING ABBEY: THE INNER GATEWAY.

THE RISE AND FALL OF READING ABBEY. By Jamieson B. Hurry, M.A., M.D. With illustrations. London: *Elliot Stock*, 1906. Crown 8vo., pp. xii, 119. Price 2s. 6d. net.

A few years ago Dr. Hurry published an elaborate and well-illustrated account of the magnificent monastic foundation which for more than four centuries adorned the ancient town of Reading, and the work was generally welcomed. In the charmingly produced little book before us Dr. Hurry prints in amplified form an address which he gave, as President, to the Reading Literary and Scientific Society in 1905, and which may be regarded as a model of its kind. He sketches briefly the founding of the Abbey by monks from Cluny at the bidding of Henry I., describes in a summary way the various parts of the great fabric, outlines the subsequent history of the Abbey, and

Henry, visited it; Parliament was there convened in January, 1440, and again in March, 1453, and in November, 1467. At the consecration of the imposing Abbey Church in April, 1164, the procession included, besides the King and many of his nobles, the great Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas à Becket, and ten suffragan Bishops. Beneath its walls took place, in 1163, the famous wager of battle between Robert de Montfort and Henry de Essex; and within the Abbey Church, in 1359, were married John of Gaunt and Blanche, daughter of the Duke of Lancaster—a ceremonial in connection with which a tournament was held on an unusually magnificent scale. More interesting than these memories of splendour and greatness to some will be the recollection that the famous roundel "Sumer is icumen in" was first written down at

Reading Abbey about 1225, and may quite possibly have been composed within the Abbey walls.

The numerous illustrations to Dr. Hurry's book show the various remains of the fabric now in ruins, as well as the two portions which still exist in a restored form. Of the latter, one is the dormitory of the Hospitium, restored in 1891, and the other, of which a view is here reproduced, is the inner gateway. There are also illustrations of seals and coins—the Abbey enjoyed the privilege of a mint—and coloured plates of the Abbey arms, and of the Foundation Charter.

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MOORISH REMAINS IN SPAIN. By Albert F. Calvert. Eighty-four coloured plates and numerous other illustrations. London: John Lane, 1906. Crown 4to, pp. xx, 586. Price £2 2s. net.

Just when the new Spanish marriage is attracting attention to a country of departed greatness, Mr. Calvert's volume on "Moorish Remains in Spain" appears with the courtliest of dedications to His Majesty Alfonso XIII. In many respects this handsome volume is a timely wedding-present for his Spanish Majesty, as it is a gorgeous literary tribute to the beauty of three jewels in the Spanish Crown—Cordova, Seville, and Toledo. Mr. Calvert is an enthusiast and an antiquary, so that to cavil at his somewhat pedestrian style of authorship and his use of such a phrase as that "Washington Irving invariably goes the whole hog" in dealing with legendary history, is perhaps ungracious. But it is a pity that more literary distinction and a better arrangement of his pages are not found in a volume issued with such pomp from the Bodley Head Press in a binding so worthy of its royal ascription. One sighs, too, for an index!

Our author, however, gives an interesting résumé of the eight centuries—the fifth to the thirteenth—through which the Moors were a European Power. It includes many romantic tales of history, like the story of that beautiful character, Abd-er-Rahman, Sultan of Cordova, who made the prosperity of Andalusia the envy of the civilized world. It is Cordova that for nine centuries has held, in its mosque, the most beautiful Mussulman temple ever made by man, erected over a wonderful festooned arcading, and decorated with a bewildering combination of Grecian frets and Persian and Byzantine ornaments. "To-day," says Mr. Calvert, "there is nothing left in Cordova but the mosque, the bridge, and the ruins of the alcazar to mark the spot where, in the time of Abd-er-Rahman III., a city, ten miles in length, lined the banks of the Guadalquivir with mosques and gardens and marble palaces." But the abundant coloured plates and photographs with which the eyes are regaled in this volume testify to the city's splendour, and afford a feast of instruction in design and in the architectural ornament of a special school.

Seville, "the pearl of Andalusia," remained in the hands of the Moors for over five centuries, and they so beautified it as to cause the proverb that "to whom God loves He gives a house in Seville." The interior of the Hall of the Ambassadors in the Alcazar is one of the most splendid apartments which men have ever devised, and the photographs which

here begin at p. 301 suggest the intricate mysteries of its beauty. Mr. Calvert devotes less space to Toledo, and as his subject is, after all, the relics of art, one must excuse the absence of any pictures of the mighty natural situation of the rock-built city.

The author himself allows us to regard his volume in the main as a picture-book, and we can imagine that many a designer who eschews the noble simplicity of Greek forms and the Christian aspirations of Gothic art will turn with profit to the wealth of plates here bestowed. The coloured plates are gorgeous rather than delicate; for that we must thank the Moors, and marvel at the inventiveness of their artist-geometricians. A number of modern photos are included; at p. 107 is an excellent "interior" of a chapel, while two chapel roofs are cleverly reproduced on pp. 125 and 127. Objects of antiquarian interest are added at rare intervals—e.g., an Arab vase of metallic lustre and an inlaid sword scabbard. An apparently original survey of geometrical designs forms a valuable appendix to the plates. It seems to us a pity that Mr. Calvert has not more generally acknowledged the sources of his illustrations taken from old prints, and many of those which we believe were drawn by Wyld about 1835 are far inferior in beauty to the contemporary engravings after David Roberts, which for four or five years adorned Jennings' *Landscape Annuals*.—W. H. D.

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A HISTORY OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE. By the Rev. Edward Conybeare. London: Elliot Stock, 1906. 8vo., pp. xxviii, 306. Price 3s. 6d. net.

This cheap reissue of Mr. Conybeare's *History* of one of the most interesting of English counties is sure of a warm welcome. It was recognised on its first appearance as one of the best of the series of "Popular County Histories" to which it belonged. A county which has been the scene of unusually large and important archaeological finds, which was thoroughly Romanized, which contains within its borders so much of the Fenland in which first the hunted Britons and, later, the *intransigent* Saxons took refuge, and which comprises the town and University of Cambridge, and the Isle and City of Ely, does not lack for materials for history. Mr. Conybeare is master of his abundant matter, and his book, while careful and scholarly, is also most readable and interesting. The compression which has been necessary in dealing with such a wealth of material, and so wide and varied a field of history, has been accomplished with no loss to lucidity or accuracy. The various appendices contain much important statistical and other matter, and there is a good index.

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NOTES ON SHIPBUILDING AND NAUTICAL TERMS OF OLD IN THE NORTH. By Eiríkr Magnússon. London: Alexander Moring, Ltd., 1906. 8vo., pp. 62. Price 1s. net.

This booklet, the print and "get up" of which are worthy of the publishers' reputation, contains a paper of singular interest read before the Viking Club. The author traces the history of Northern shipbuilding from the monoxylous type of craft—the boat hollowed from a single timber—of the Stone Age men to the war-vessels of the Vikings, illustrating it both from

the discoveries of archaeology and from references in literature and tradition. Mr. Magnússon is, of course, an authority on Scandinavian matters, and this little book, so freshly and well written, and so pleasantly produced, is worthy of an audience much wider than that to which it was first addressed.

* * *

The latest volume in the "Homeland" series of handbook is a capital little guide, got up with the care and good taste characteristic of the series, to *Dorking and Leatherhead, with their Surroundings*, by J. E. Morris, price 1s. net. The district is one of endless charm, not least because it contains the ancestral home of the Evelyns, and the beautiful little church in which the diarist was buried 200 years ago. Mr. Morris is an admirable guide, and by no means neglects the points of interest to wanderers with antiquarian tastes. The illustrations are good and abundant, as usual.

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Three new issues of the "Hull Museum Publications" are before us—Nos. 30, 31, 32. The first two, written by Messrs. T. Sheppard and J. Suddaby, treat of "Hull Whaling Relics, and Arctic or Historical Records of 250 Years." Lord Nunburnholme has lately presented to the Hull Museum a collection of much historical value illustrating the whaling days of old. The collection is here described, and many of the harpoons, etc., figured. The third issue, No. 32, is a carefully prepared "Catalogue of Antique Silver"—a collection of remarkable and varied interest, lent for exhibition at the Municipal Museum by a gentleman of Hull. All three publications are published by A. Brown and Sons, Ltd., Hull, at the modest price of one penny each.

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The *Architectural Review*, June, besides a well-illustrated article on "The Crowning Quality of Architecture"—i.e., Endurance—by Mr. A. W. S. Cross, and Mr. Halsey Ricardo's second paper on "Architecture at the Royal Academy," has a very full and splendidly illustrated description, by Mr. H. P. Adams, of the "King Edward VII. Sanatorium, Midhurst, Sussex."

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From Washington, D.C., come the parts for April and May of *Records of the Past*, a well-illustrated archaeological magazine. Besides many articles relating to European and Asiatic antiquities there are papers on "The Pillager Indians," a pagan tribe whose island home is in a lake to the north of Lake Superior; the very extraordinary "Serpent Mound, Ohio," with good illustrations; and "Casas Grandian Outposts" in Northern Mexico. We have also received the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, April, with articles on Irish Pipers, Ulster Bibliography, Old Belfast Signboards, and other Irish topics; *Scottish Notes and Queries*, June; *Rivista d'Italia*, May; *East Anglian*, March; the *American Antiquarian*, May and June; and Messrs. Williams and Norgate's *International Book Circular*, No. 142.



Correspondence.

ROBIN HOOD.

TO THE EDITOR.

In addition to Sir Edward Brabrook's list of places associated with the name of Robin Hood the following may be of interest: One of the battlemented bastions or towers on the north-east front of the walls of York, in 1746, was known as Robin Hood's Tower. This side of the city walls was bounded by the Forest of Galtres, which extended for twenty miles or more. Easingwold in one direction and Malton on the Derwent in medieval times are described as being in the forest.

T. P. COOPER.

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TO THE EDITOR.

ADMIRERS of the life and exploits of the great Saxon outlaw will welcome Sir Edward Brabrook's paper in your columns on that ever-attractive personality. It is refreshing, in these days of almost universal negation, when facts that are but dimly observable through the mists of antiquity are relegated to the limbo of mythology, to witness a knight, in letters as in heraldry, bold enough to break lances on the existence of Robin Hood with opponents so doughty as Messrs. Sidney Lee, Hales, Wright, Bradley, and Addy. Very humbly would I crave the post of squire unto him, for the researches into which I have plunged for many years back relating to the Sherwood hero have, to my mind, placed his living reality beyond the shadow of a doubt. Those researches, resulting in a vast accumulation of written and printed matter, may some day see the light in pamphlet form. My latest acquisition in this respect is a curious brochure entitled, *Thèse de littérature sur les vicissitudes et les transformations du cycle populaire de Robin Hood*, Paris, 1832. The author is Edward Barry, who is described as "Elève de l'École Normale, licencié ès-lettres, aspirant au grade de docteur." The work itself is elaborate and interesting, and apparently favours the mythological theory.

J. B. McGOVERN.

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Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester.

BELL AND THE DRAGON.

TO THE EDITOR.

Is Mr. MacMichael correct in stating in the April issue of the *Antiquary* that the origin of the sign the Bell and the Dragon "is unmistakably from the arms of the Apothecaries' Company"? Joseph Addison, of the *Spectator*, writing on "Inn Signs," said: "Our Apocryphal heathen god is represented by a bell, which in conjunction with the dragon makes a very handsome picture in several of our streets." Addison was referring to the story of Bel and the Dragon contained in the Apocrypha; and this derivation of the inn sign is a very likely one.

Milton Abbey, Dorset,

HERBERT PENTIN.

May 19, 1906.

NOTE TO PUBLISHERS.—We shall be particularly obliged to publishers if they will always state the price of books sent for review.

